S
917.86
C18GTPG
1982

Naturally inviting!

MONTANA

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION
DEC 1 . 2003
MONTANA STATE LIBRARY
1515 E. 6th AVE.
HELENA MONTANA 59620

Group Tour Planning Guide

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY
3 0864 1002 4118 4

INTRODUCTION

This planning guide is designed to enable you, the group tour operator, to package marketable and profitable tours to Montana. Our goal is to get as much information about Montana as we can into your hands.

You start with two of the nation's most popular destinations — Yellowstone and Glacier national parks — and fill in the 400 miles that separate them with museums, art galleries, ghost towns, rodeos, festivals, state parks, wildlife refuges, resorts, modern cities and mile after mile of lush, natural beauty.

More than 14,000 miles of modern, paved highways, including north-south and east-west interstate systems make Montana and its many attractions accessible. If it makes more sense to fly your clients out and begin your tour here, Montana's commercial air service and motorcoach charter services make that option available to you.

Like other states, we require you to register your ICC permit prior to entering the state. Refer to page 3 for more information on this and other motorcoach regulations.

For your convenience, we have suggested popular tours and itineraries we know your clients will enjoy. If you need or would prefer to devise your own itineraries, we have provided the tools for that, too. In addition to our accommodations listing, you will find detailed, statewide information on cities, attractions, events, transportation routes, highway rest stops, airline service and charter bus operators, plus escort notes that will make you the expert on Montana.

If you need literature, films or photographs to help with your promotions, give us a call and we'll give you the friendly, professional service you would expect of a Montanan. We can also help you with specialized tours like camping, hiking, fishing, skiing, historical, agricultural and industrial.

There is a bonus called economy for everyone who visits Montana. Goods and services cost measurably less in Montana than in most eastern and many western states. Full, retail cost for a night's lodging rarely exceeds $40 and you would have to disgrace yourself at the table to pay more than $20 for even the most elegant meal. There is NO GENERAL SALES TAX in Montana, so be sure to allow time for your clients to shop. They will want to. See page 23 for a list of shopping areas.

Early explorers called it the Land of the Shining Mountains. Modern explorers can still enjoy our shining mountains and so much more — gurgling hot pots and geysers, glaciers, abundant wildlife, shimmering lakes and snow-fed streams, rolling plains, timbered mountains and badlands that look like they were born on the moon. Montana was cast in a setting of unexcelled natural beauty, and we're proud we've kept it that way. But we've added some finishing touches...attractive western cities with all the comforts you and your clients deserve.

If this planning guide doesn't answer all of your questions about Montana, please contact us and any information you need will be researched and forwarded to you promptly. You are our group tour coordinator's highest priority.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction 1
Sales Aids, Tour Operators 2
Transportation: How to Get To and Around Montana . . . 3
Suggested Tours. 6
Major Attractions. 9
Cities and Attractions. 12
Shopping Areas 23
Major Events 24
Accommodations 27
Campgrounds. 32
Escort Notes 33

SALES AIDS

To help promote your Montana tours, the following sales aids are available from the Montana Travel Promotion Bureau:

- 48-page Vacation and Information Guide, including a complete list of hotels, motels and campgrounds
- 24-page full color brochure picturing Montana's major attractions
- 24-page Alpine and Nordic Ski Guide
- Official Highway Map
- Color transparencies (on a loan basis)
- Black and white photos
- Color separations for tour shells (on a loan basis)
- 16 mm color movies (on a loan basis)
- Brochures from Montana's major attractions and cities

TOUR OPERATORS

Should you prefer to use a local tour operator to help organize a tour, provide escort service or just to add local color, the following travel professionals can assist you:

Anderson-Elerding Travel Service, Inc.
P.O. Box 2185
Great Falls, MT 59403
406-761-0700

Leisure Tours, Inc.
20 - 10th Street East
Kalispell, MT 59901
406-755-1032

Montana Travel, Inc.
P.O. Box 459
Bozeman, MT 59715
406-587-4448
Telex - 319401

Sager Tours
801 West 7th Street
Anaconda, MT 59711
406-563-7608

Western Heritage Tours
179 N. Main Street
Kalispell, MT 59901
406-755-8687
Telex - 313142

Yellowstone Tour and Travel
P.O. Box 369
West Yellowstone, MT 59758
406-646-9310

Montana Travel Promotion Bureau
Department of Commerce
1424 9th Avenue
Helena, MT 59620
406-449-2654
1-800-548-3390
Telex - 910-963-2454

HOW TO GET TO AND AROUND MONTANA

BUS PERMITS

For your convenience we have compiled the following information regarding motorcoach travel in Montana. If you are chartering a coach from another company, please pass along these important facts to them. By acquainting yourself with our regulations and doing some pre-trip planning, you can avoid delays at Montana weigh stations and provide a more pleasant tour for your clients.

1. Before entering Montana you must register your ICC authority with the following agency:

   Montana Public Service Commission
   1227 11th Avenue
   Helena, MT 59620
   406-449-3008

   There is a one-time charge of $25.00 to file this application and a $2.00 charge for the certificate of issuance. A bingo stamp must be purchased for each vehicle that you will be bringing into Montana. The cost of each stamp is $5.00

   IMPORTANT: You **must** apply for this authority prior to your arrival in Montana and your vehicle identification stamp should be placed on each vehicle.

2. Stop at the **first** open weigh station in Montana to show your identification stamp and purchase your trip permits.

3. You may purchase a special fuel user's Temporary Trip Permit at the cost of $30.00. It will be valid for 72 hours or until you leave the State of Montana.

   If you plan to operate in Montana on a regular basis you may file an application for a special fuel user's license together with a minimum of $500.00 surety or cash bond with the Department of Revenue.

   For more information contact:

   Department of Revenue
   Motor Fuels Tax Division
   P.O. Box 5895
   Helena, MT 59604
   406-449-3474

4. A Temporary Trip Permit from the Department of Highways is based on the number of miles you will be traveling while in Montana. Rates are as follows:

   Up to 200 miles - $10.00
   200 to 400 miles - $15.00
   Over 400 miles - $20.00

   However, if you operate out of one of the 28 states that belong to the International Registration Plan, reciprocity is granted.

   If you plan to operate in Montana on a regular basis, you may pay an annual fee based on the adult seating capacity of your motorcoach. The cost is $7.00 per seat excluding seven seats and the driver.

   For more information contact:

   Department of Highways
   Gross Vehicle Weight Division
   P.O. Box 4639
   Helena, MT 59604
   406-449-2476

TRIP LEASE AND SIGHTSEEING SERVICES IN GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

One of the most memorable highlights of Glacier National Park is the spectacular Going-to-the-Sun Highway. This high, winding and narrow road necessitates the National Park Service to limit the size and length of vehicles traveling over it. The size limitations is eight feet in width and 30 feet in length, including extensions like mirrors, bumpers and trailers. Commercial coaches or vehicles are NOT ALLOWED ON THIS ROAD OR OTHER PARK ROADS because of the existing franchise agreement between the National Park Service and Glacier Park, Inc., the concessionnaire. The Park Service has approved a trip lease program, however, which allows tour operators to take their vehicles from West Glacier to Lake McDonald Lodge (10 miles) on the west side of the park or from St. Mary to Rising Sun Motor Inn (6 miles) on the east side of the park. The Going-to-the-Sun Highway is still restricted. Under the trip lease agreement, Glacier Park, Inc., will lease your coach or van, including the driver, for the part of the trip within the park at a rate of $1.25 per mile one way. Passengers will be charged $1.50 per per son ($2.00 per person for vans) for this portion of the trip. Trip lease agreements and addendums are available on request.

For more information, contact:

Glacier Park, Inc.,
East Glacier Park, MT 59434
406-226-5551

SIGHTSEEING SERVICES IN YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

In Yellowstone Park, where TWA Services, Inc., holds the concession contract, motorcoaches travel throughout the park without restriction. If you wish to have a park guide board your bus, contact:

Group Tour Office
TWA Services, Inc.,
Yellowstone Park Division
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190
307-344-7901

As in all national parks, there is a 50-cent entrance per passenger between the ages of 16 and 62.

INTERMODAL TRAVEL

For tour operators who wish to reduce the time spent traveling through other states to reach Montana, there are several options available including commercial air service, AMTRAK and a number of charter bus operations in Montana.

The following airlines serve Montana with scheduled flights:

Billings	Northwest Orient, Western, Frontier, Big Sky
Bozeman	Northwest Orient, Frontier
Butte	Northwest Orient, Western
Glasgow	Big Sky
Glendive	Big Sky
Great Falls	Northwest Orient, Western, Frontier, Big Sky
Havre	Big Sky
Helena	Northwest Orient, Frontier
Kalispell	Frontier, Republic
Lewistown	Big Sky
Miles City	Big Sky
Missoula	Northwest Orient, Frontier
Sidney	Big Sky
West Yellowstone (Summer)	Frontier, Aspen Airways
Wolf Point	Big Sky

Along the Hi-Line, which parallels U.S. 2 through northern Montana, AMTRAK makes stops at Libby, West Glacier, Whitefish, Glacier Park, Browning, Cut Bank, Shelby, Havre, Malta, Glasgow and Wolf Point. Trains run daily, east and west. For more information, call your nearest AMTRAK office.

For charter coach services in Montana, contact any of the following operators.

Beach Transportation Company
825 Mount
Missoula, MT 59801
406-549-6121

Pick-up points: Missoula, Flathead County, Lake County

Equipment: 41- and 47-passenger MCI coaches with PA, A/C, restrooms, tape decks and AM/FM radios. 47-passengers have automatic transmissions.

Emergency phone: 406-251-3936 and 406-273-6555

Colstrip Commuter Service
P.O. Box 21241
Billings, MT 59104
406-245-5002

Pick-up points: Billings, Hardin, Colstrip, Laurel

Equipment: 39-passenger with A/C and restroom and 41-passenger with A/C

Emergency phone: 406-245-5002

Glacier Park, Inc.
East Glacier Park, MT 59434
406-226-5551

Pick-up points: Glacier National Park

Equipment: 14-18 passenger touring coaches

Greyhound Lines, Inc., Charter Service
Greyhound Tower
Phoenix, AZ 85077
602-248-6870
800-528-0447
Telex: 165058

Pick-up points: Billings, Butte, Missoula, Bozeman, Livingston, Miles City, Glendive and all intermediate points between I-90 and I-94.

Equipment: 43-passenger coaches with A/C, restrooms and large baggage bins.

Emergency phone: 800-528-0448

Hall Transit
1310 Birch
Helena, MT 59601
406-442-5654

Pick-up points: Helena, Great Falls, Butte, Missoula

Equipment: 38- and 47-passenger coaches with A/C and restrooms. Also 66-passenger school buses.

Emergency phone: 406-442-5654

Hinther Transport, Inc.
P.O. Box 76
Jordan, MT 59337
406-557-6155 or 406-557-2245

Pick-up points: Glendive, Miles City and Billings

Equipment: 41-passenger GM motorcoach with A/C

Emergency phone: 406-557-6155 and 406-557-2245

Intermountain Transportation Company
7-9 Main Street
Anaconda, MT 59711
406-563-5246

Pick-up points: Butte, Anaconda, Great Falls, Missoula, Havre, Kalispell, Billings - all points on existing service routes.

Equipment: 39- and 47-passenger coaches with restrooms, A/C and PA.

Emergency phone: 406-563-7106 (8 a.m. to 11 p.m. - 7 days a week)

Karst Stage, Inc.
511 No. Wallace
Bozeman, MT 59715
406-586-8567
800-332-0504

Pick-up points: Lewis and Clark, Yellowstone and Gallatin counties.

Equipment: 16-, 29-, 39-, 41- and 47-passenger coaches. Most have restrooms and A/C. Also school buses ranging from 48- to 78-passengers.

Emergency phone: 406-586-8567 and 800-332-0504 and 406-586-2730

Motors Leasing Company
P.O. Box 652
Great Falls, MT 59403
406-454-1283

Pick-up points: Any interstate group at any point in Montana, including all airports.

Equipment: 38-, 41-, 46- and 48-passenger GM and Eagle motorcoaches with radios, tape decks, A/C, PA and restrooms. Also 12-passenger van.

Emergency phone: 406-453-9687

Old West Trailways
114 First Street
Havre, MT 59501
406-265-5321 or 265-2131
406-248-7101 or 245-9441

Pick-up points: Most points in Montana

Equipment: 38- and 41-passenger coaches with restrooms and A/C. Also 15-passenger vans.

Emergency phone: All of the above

Rimrock Stages, Inc.
4322 State Avenue
Billings, MT 59101
406-245-5392

Pick-up points: All points along U.S. 12 from Billings to Helena

Equipment: 39-, 43- and 47-passenger MCI coaches with restrooms and A/C.

Emergency phone: 406-259-3147 and 406-259-7315

Rocky Mountain Transportation, Inc.
1410 E. Edgewood Drive
Whitefish, MT 59937
406-862-2539

Pick-up points: Kalispell, Whitefish, Libby, Great Falls, Browning, East Glacier Park

Equipment: 39-passenger MCI coaches with A/C, PA, restrooms and stereo - one with bar. Also 15-passenger Maxi-Vans with A/C.

Emergency phone: 406-862-2539

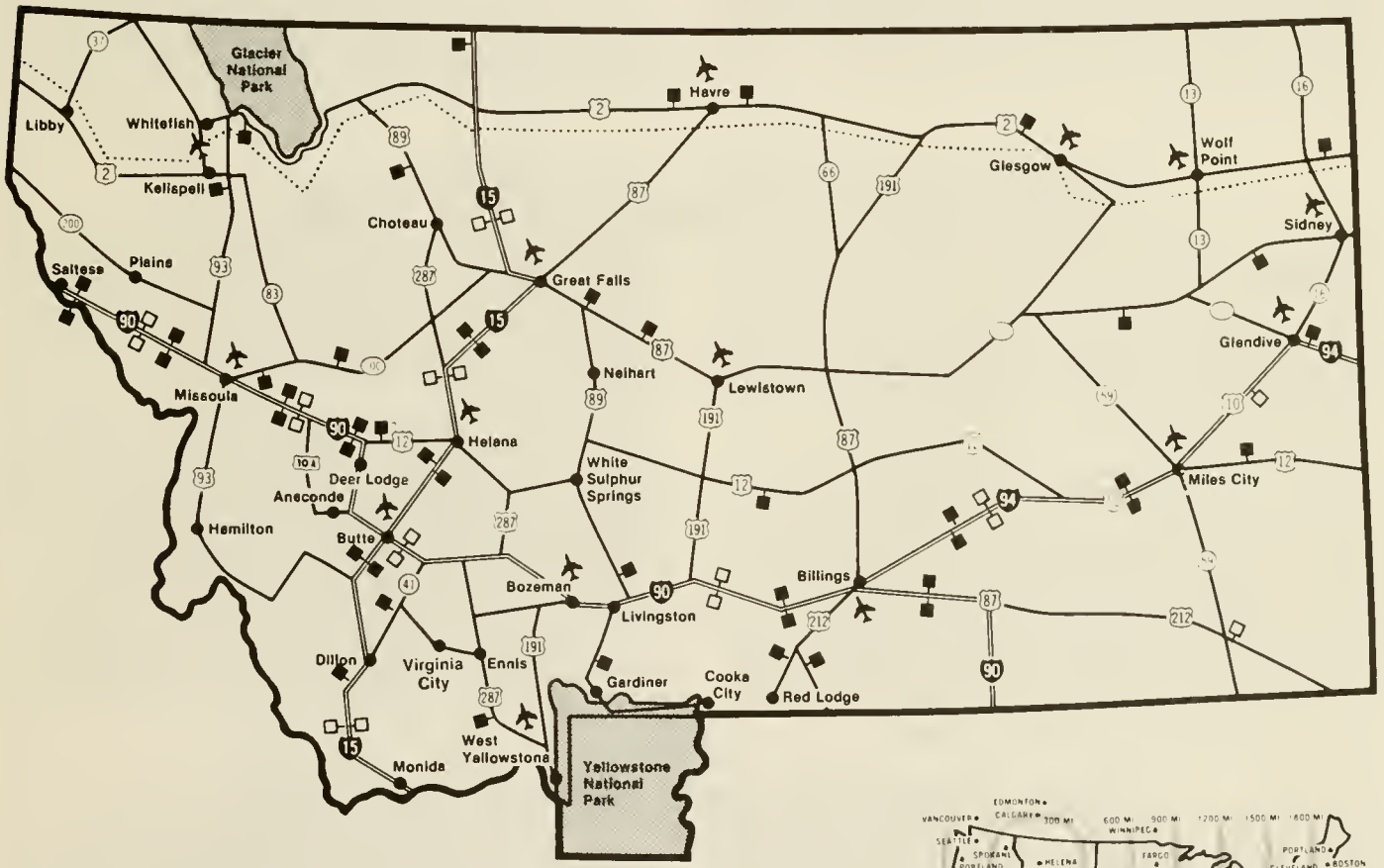
Yellowstone Park Division
TWA Services, Inc.
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190
307-344-7901
Telex: 313140

Pick-up points: Bozeman, Billings, Livingston, Gardiner, West Yellowstone, Big Sky, Butte and Great Falls

Equipment: 41-passenger MCI coaches with A/C and PA. 8 buses with restrooms.

DIESEL FUEL AVAILABILITY

Because of Montana's agriculture-based economy, diesel fuel is readily available throughout the state. There are several diesel fuel dealers in each of Montana's major cities and in many smaller farm communities. Ask the front desk manager at your hotel where you can find the nearest dealer.



..... **Amtrak Route**

Scheduled Air Service

Rest Stops
☐ **Open Year-Round**
■ **Seasonal (Closed Nov. 15 thru April 15)**

SUGGESTED TOURS

THREE-DAY TOUR BETWEEN THE PARKS

Day One

We start our tour with a visit to the Madison Canyon Earthquake Area near West Yellowstone. Here we will see the results of the 1959 earthquake that toppled a mountain and created Quake Lake. Our next stop will be Virginia City, once the territorial capital of Montana and now a restored gold mining town. We will have lunch here and ride a narrow-gauge railway train to neighboring Nevada City to explore more living history. Afternoon will take us to Butte where we will tour the open-pit copper mine or visit the World Museum of Mining on Hell Roarin' Gulch.

Overnight in Butte or Anaconda.

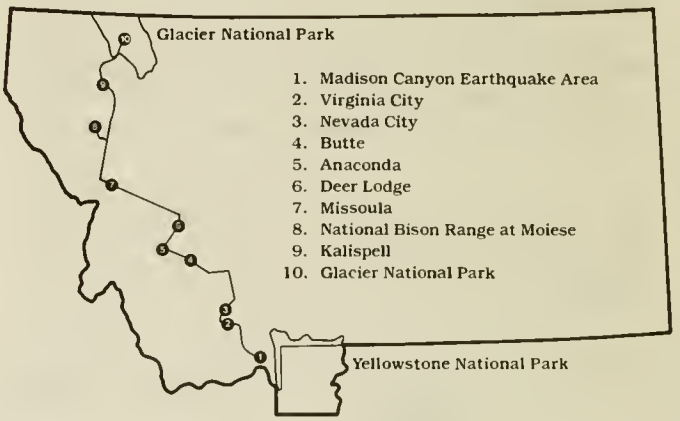
Day Two

This morning we will visit Deer Lodge, the home of three unique and historic attractions. We may choose to tour the Grant Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site, the Montana Territorial Prison or the Towe Antique Ford Collection. After a lunch stop in Missoula we will head for the National Bison Range at Moiese. This preserve is the home of bison, elk, deer, antelope, big horn sheep and mountain goats. Our day ends with a drive along the beautiful Flathead Lake to Kalispell for our overnight stay.

Day Three

Our entire day is spent in magnificent Glacier National Park. We will need to transfer to smaller touring cars for our ride over the breathtaking Going-to-the-Sun Highway. We will cross the Continental Divide at Logan Pass and will pause somewhere near the summit to enjoy our picnic lunch.

Overnight in Glacier National Park.



THREE-DAY TOUR BETWEEN THE PARKS

Day One

Our tour begins at Gardiner near the north gate of Yellowstone National Park. From here we follow the Yellowstone River north through the beautiful Paradise Valley to Livingston where we turn west and retrace the route taken by the Lewis and Clark Expedition on their return trip from the Pacific. We will pass near the headwaters of the Missouri River and then head north again on U.S. 287. We will reach Helena in time for lunch and the afternoon will be spent exploring this historic city, which is now the capital of Montana. First a ride on the Last Chance Tour Train for a comprehensive tour of Helena, sampling some of her history and beauty. Later there will be time to visit other area attractions such as the Montana Historical Society, the Cathedral of St. Helena, the Original Governor's Mansior or the pedestrian mall on Last Chance Gulch. Overnight in Helena.

Day Two

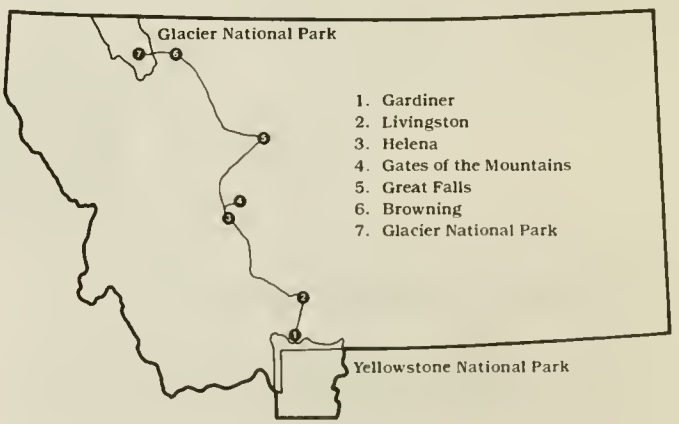
After breakfast we will tour the State Capitol before leaving Helena behind. Sixteen miles north of town, at the Gates of the Mountains, we will board a 90-passenger scenic cruiser for a tour of the Missouri River. The canyon we will be entering was explored by the Lewis and Clark Expedition in 1805. Today the campsite of Captain Lewis and his party is a beautiful picnic area where we will stop to enjoy our lunch. Then it's on to Great Falls to visit the original home and studio of cowboy artist Charlie Russell. We will also stop by the nearby museum and gallery that contains many of his original works.

Overnight in Great Falls.

Day Three

Our journey today takes us through the Blackfeet Indian Reservation. We'll pause in Browning to visit the Museum of the Plains Indian where we can see the arts and artifacts of 11 Plains Indian tribes. After lunch we board our motorcoach and head for Glacier National Park and its spectacular alpine scenery.

Overnight in Glacier National Park.



TOURING ALONG THE EAST-WEST INTERSTATE

Day One

We'll be in the heart of rural America when we enter eastern Montana on I-94. We'll stop at Glendive to have lunch and if there's time, we'll visit Makoshika State Park. The Sioux Indians had a name for this place, Makoshika, meaning "bad earth" or badlands. In the afternoon we'll follow the Yellowstone River to Miles City - cow capital of the West. History will come to life as we visit area attractions such as the Range Riders Museum, Coffrin's Old West Gallery and the Custer County Art Center.

Overnight in Miles City.

Day Two

Today we will continue west toward the Rocky Mountains. We'll follow the route taken by the Lewis and Clark Expedition on their return trip from the Pacific in 1806. We'll be able to see Pompeys Pillar where Captain Clark carved his name on July 25. After a lunch stop in Billings, Montana's largest city, we motor to Bozeman and arrive in time for a walking tour or bus tour of this city's historic district and a visit to the Museum of the Rockies.

Overnight in Bozeman.

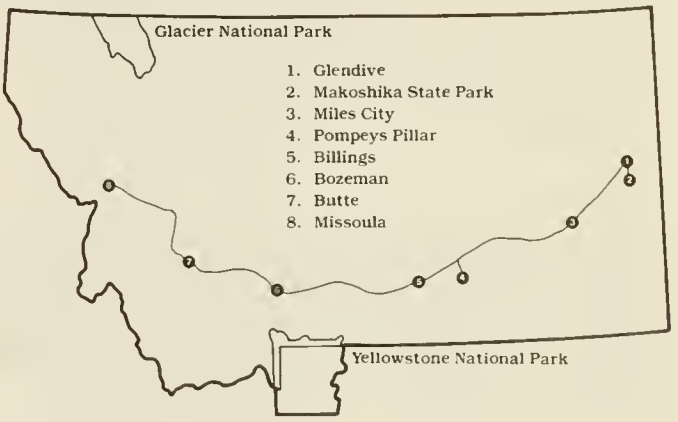
Day Three

This morning we pass near the headwaters of the Missouri River as we head toward Butte. During a visit to the World Museum of Mining and Hell Roarin' Gulch or the Berkeley Open-Pit Mine, we learn what an important role mining has played in the history not only of Butte but the entire state.

After lunch it's on to Missoula where we will be given a tour of the Aerial Fire Depot and learn about the rigorous live of the smokejumper.

Overnight in Missoula.

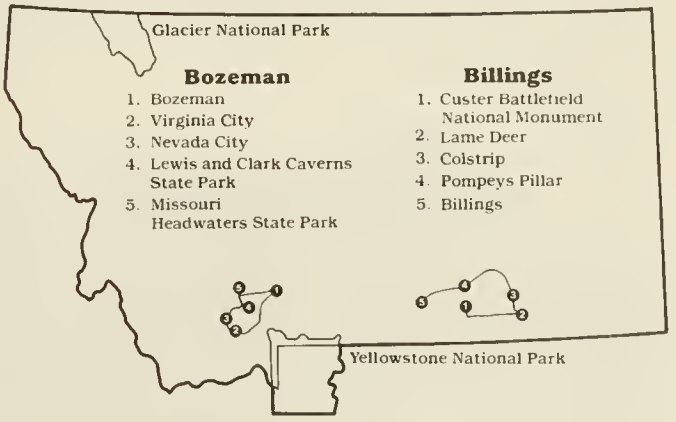
This itinerary is designed for tours entering Montana from North Dakota. Tours coming from South Dakota and Wyoming will enter on I-90 and pass through the Crow Indian Reservation. On this route a stop at Custer Battlefield National Monument is a must.



ONE-DAY HISTORY TRIP FROM BILLINGS

The site of America's most famous Indian battle awaits us on this tour at the Custer Battlefield National Monument. Here, in 1876, Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer and the entire Seventh Cavalry were slain by Sioux and Cheyenne warriors. We will be given a guided tour of the battleground and we'll see the visitor center and museum.

Passing on through the Crow Indian Reservation we turn east onto the Northern Cheyenne Reservation where we will visit the Indian Craft Center at Lame Deer. After lunch its north to coal country. At Colstrip we'll tour one of the largest strip mining operations in the U.S. Then we'll head back to Billings. Enroute we'll follow the Yellowstone River. More than 175 years ago this route was also followed by the Lewis and Clark Expedition. We can see a landmark of that historic journey at Pompeys Pillar, northeast of Billings on I-94. In 1806, Captain William Clark carved his signature in the rock and also named this massive sandstone pillar for Sacajawea's baby boy, Pomp.



ONE-DAY HISTORY TRIP FROM BOZEMAN

We leave Bozeman this morning and head for the restored gold mining camps of Virginia City and Nevada City - where the spirit of the Old West still lives. Activities in this historic area will include a ride on the Alder Gulch "work" train, a visit to the Nevada City Museum, the Antique Car Exhibit and the Nevada City Railroad Museum. After a buffet-style lunch at the Wells Fargo Coffee House, we'll follow U.S. 287 to the Lewis and Clark Caverns State Park. There we will be given a tour the the Paradise Room — the largest and most beautiful room in the caverns. On our return trip to Bozeman we will stop briefly at the Missouri Headwaters State Park. Upon reaching this historically significant point in 1805, the Lewis and Clark Expedition had to make a crucial decision about which of the three tributaries would provide the surest route over the Continental Divide and westward to the Pacific Ocean.

SIX-DAY TOUR OF THE PARKS AND A WHOLE LOT MORE

We would like to suggest the following itinerary to give your clients the ultimate Montana experience. This tour includes both Glacier and Yellowstone national parks, as well as historic Virginia City and Nevada City, Flathead Lake, the Beartooth Highway and many of Montana's other fine attractions. If there is time at the beginning and end of your tour, be sure to visit the Charlie Russell Museum in Great Falls and the Custer National Battlefield southeast of Billings. If you are considering an intermodal tour, both Billings and Great Falls have excellent air service.

Day One

After an overnight stay in Great Falls, we'll head for Glacier National Park. Following Route 89 we'll cross the Blackfeet Indian Reservation to lunch at St. Mary's Lodge on the east edge of the Park. Afterwards we'll board smaller touring coaches for our trip over the spectacular Going-to-the-Sun Highway.

Overnight in Glacier National Park at Lake McDonald Lodge.

Day Two

This morning we head toward Kalispell, where we'll visit the beautifully restored Conrad Mansion. After lunch and a scenic drive along Flathead Lake our time will be spent touring the National Bison Range at Moiese.

Overnight in Missoula, Montana's Garden City.

Day Three

We leave Missoula behind as we motor east on I-90. Our first stop will be the peaceful Deer Lodge Valley where we'll learn about early ranching life as we tour the Grant Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site. There will also be time to visit the Towe Antique Ford Collection before lunch. This afternoon, it's on to Helena. Enroute we'll stop at Frontier Town atop McDonald Pass.

Overnight in Helena.

Day Four

Today we get a good look at Montana's capital city by riding the Last Chancer Tour Train and hearing a little about the history of Helena. We'll visit other local attractions before departing this afternoon. It's a 120-mile trip to our hotel this evening in historic Nevada City. A special treat tonight is a visit to neighboring Virginia City where we'll enjoy old-fashined melodrama at its best with the Virginia City Players.

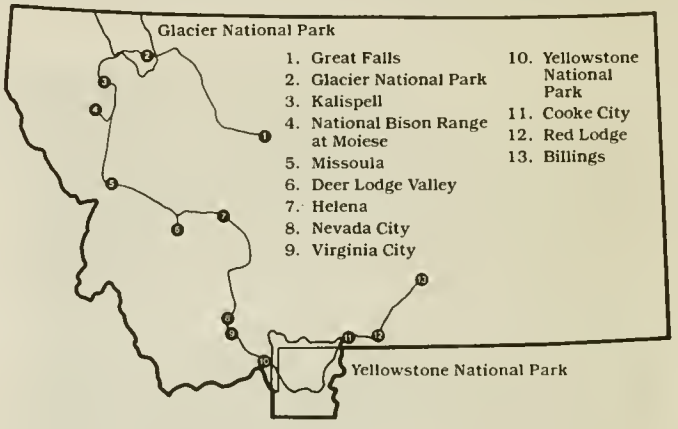
Day Five

It's a short drive today to reach America's most famous national park - Yellowstone. Here we'll marvel at "nature's wonderland" as we view geysers, mud pots and other thermal features. Lunch will be in the Old Faithful area and we'll have the opportunity to watch this famous geyser erupt. This afternoon will be full of new adventures as we journey to the eastern half of the park to see Yellowstone Lake and the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone and its two spectacular waterfalls.

Overnight in Yellowstone National Park at Canyon Village.

Day Six

Today we'll visit Mammoth Hot Springs before leaving Yellowstone at its northeast corner. There will be a lunch stop in Cooke City before starting our climb over the Beartooth Pass. Get ready for some breathtaking mountain scenery along what CBS correspondent Charles Kuralt has described as the most beautiful drive in America. We'll pass through the charming, alpine town of Red Lodge before reaching our overnight destination of Billings.



AGRICULTURAL TOURS

Agriculture is an important part of Montana's economy, and we invite you to tour the farms and ranches of our state and meet the people who help put the food on America's tables.

Within Montana's boundaries are some of the largest grain and livestock operations in the United States. Grain products include wheat, barley, oats and oil seed crops. Modern tillage methods are used to produce high yields, despite low rainfall and limited irrigation. Cattle breeds included Hereford, Angus, Simmental, Charolais, Murray Grey and Santa Gertrudis. Montana is the home of the American Simmental Assocation, the American Murray Grey Association and numerous local cattle and grain associations.

Montana State University, in Bozeman, has an excellent agriculture school with ag experiment stations in Bozeman and throughout the state.

Other tour options available in Montana include irrigation projects, grain elevators, livestock auction yards, feed lot operations, the Northern Plains Soil and Water Research Center in Sidney, and sheep and swine operations.

If you have a group interested in an educational agriculture tour or if you want to include a visit to a ranch as a unique addition to a regular tour, please contact our tour coordinator. She can help you put together an itinerary that will best suit your needs.

MAJOR ATTRACTIONS

GLACIER NATIONAL PARK: CROWN OF THE CONTINENT

For Blackfeet Indians, the wild region of peaks and sweeping ridges that is now Glacier National Park was a holy place, land made sacred by the Everywhere Spirit. Still sacred, the park comprises hundreds of miles of backcountry trails that lead to 50 living glaciers, dozens of waterfalls and alpine meadows brilliant with wildflowers. Dense forests fill the air with a pungent smell and 200 lakes sparkle in the sun. Visitors traveling the spectacular Going-to-the-Sun Highway cross the Continental Divide at Logan Pass, with the towering Garden Wall dominating the skyline. Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep and goats move with grace across the park's many peaks and precipices while elk graze in meadows, moose wade streams and bald eagles soar above. There are trail rides and hikes to peak-top hikers' chalets. Comfortable accommodations include two lodges, two hotels, two motor inns and cabins. (For rates and information, see page 28.) Campgrounds with from 6 to 200 campsites invite relaxation and camaraderie.

Glacier is the U.S. portion of Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park, which straddles the Montana-Alberta border. It is usually open from mid-June to mid-September. The park is served by commercial air carrier (Kalispell or Great Falls), by AMTRAK (East Glacier and West Glacier), by bus (regular stops at East and West Glacier) and by car (U.S. highways 2, 89, and 93; from Canada, drive Alberta highways 2, 5 or 6).

For information about sightseeing services in Glacier and the park's trip lease program, see page 3. Minimum time: One day. Admission: 50 cents per passenger between the ages of 16 and 62.

For more information, contact park headquarters:

Superintendent
Glacier National Park
West Glacier, MT 59936
406-888-5441

Or the concessionaire:

Glacier Park, Inc.
East Glacier, MT 59434
406-226-5551 (May 15 - Sept. 15)

1735 E. Ft. Lowell Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85719
602-795-0377 (Sept. 15 - May 15)

Guided Tours:

GLACIER PARK BOAT CO.
444 Woodland Ave.
Kalispell, MT 59901
406-257-1046

Daily scenic cruises of Glacier's most popular and beautiful lakes, including Lake McDonald, St. Mary Lake, Swiftcurrent Lake, Lake Josephine, Waterton Lake, Two Medicine Lake and more. Many of these cruises are accompanied by park rangers and include tours of glaciers. Special tours for groups can be arranged. Boat rentals are also available.

Tours operate on a regular schedule from June 12 to Sept. 12. Tour season can vary depending on weather conditions. The Launch "International," which operates on Waterton Lake, is available for private group charters. Depending on which lake you choose, cruises run from 45 minutes to 1½ hours. Admission charged.

Visitor Center at Logan Pass in Glacier National Park

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK: AMERICA'S OLDEST AND LARGEST

Furious volcanic explosions, crashing waves of ancient seas, grinding of immense glaciers, shuddering of earthquakes, wind and rain, storm and fury, fire and ice. Great natural forces worked together to create Yellowstone National Park, and the seething primal heat of the planet is still nearer the earth's surface here than anywhere else. The first white man to see Yellowstone was mountain man John Colter whose reports of the park's natural wonders were ridiculed as lies. Exploration parties verified reports of spouting geysers, boiling springs, thundering waterfalls and gaping canyons. In 1872, Congress established Yellowstone as the first national park in the world. Old Faithful geyser is the most famous of Yellowstone's 10,000 hydrothermal features. Yellowstone Falls plunges into the 1200-foot-deep Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone. Wildlife wanders through expansive meadows in the nation's largest preserve.

Three of the park's five entrances are in Montana at West Yellowstone (U.S. 287), Gardiner (U.S. 89) and Cooke City (U.S. 212). West Yellowstone's jetport provides commercial airline service during the summer months. Year-round airline connections are available at Billings, Bozeman and Butte.

The park is also open during the winter for skiing, snowmobiling and snowcoach tours.

Accommodations include four lodges, an inn, two hotels, cabins and extensive campground facilities. (For rates and information, see page 32.)

The park's summer season generally runs from May 1 to October 15. During the winter months, Yellowstone is open from December 15 to March 15. Minimum time: One day. Admission 50 cents per passenger between the ages of 16 and 62.

For more information, contact park headquarters:

Superintendent
Yellowstone National Park
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190
307-344-7381

Or the concessionnaire:

TWA Services, Inc.
Yellowstone Park Division
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190
307-344-7901

Guided Tours offered by TWA Services, Inc.

STAGECOACH RIDES

Visitors may board an authentic Concord stagecoach for an exciting ride through the rolling sagebrush country surrounding Roosevelt Lodge. The stagecoach will pause long enough to rest the horses and allow for pictures. Rides depart from the Roosevelt corrals several times daily and last 45 minutes. Season of operation is approximately June 10 - September 7. Admission charged.

OLD WEST COOKOUTS

Enjoy a delicious steak dinner cooked outdoors and served under tall pines. Cookout site can be reached by horse-drawn wagon, stagecoach or horseback. Horses depart Roosevelt corrals each evening at 4:30 and stagecoaches and wagons depart at 5:30. All guests return to the corrals by 7:30. Season of operation is approximately June 14 - September 7. Admission charged.

SCENICRUISER RIDES

Boats depart Bridge Bay Marina several times daily for a leisurely cruise on Yellowstone Lake. This one-hour commentated tour includes a trip around Stevenson Island. Season of operation is approximately June 15 - September 13. Admission charged.

Lower Falls of the Yellowstone, Yellowstone National Park

ALDER GULCH: MONTANA'S GOLD RUSH REVISITED

Montana's historic Alder Gulch, once the hub of Montana Territory, is now among the state's major tourist attractions. Widely respected for the authenticity of the restoration work carried out by the Charles Bovey family, Virigina City and Nevada City attract thousands of visitors each year traveling between Yellowstone and Glacier national parks.

Located on a mile apart on Montana Highway 287 in southwestern Montana, Virginia City and Nevada City are only 85 miles — about an hour and a quarter — north of Yellowstone.

Original buildings, dating from the Territorial days, are filled with merchandise and implements used when gold camps flourished in the West. Boardwalks, mechanical music machines, a penny arcade, antique automobiles and even a two-story outhouse add to the Old West atmosphere. An old livery stable has been converted to an opera house where the illustrious Virginia City Players, Montana's first and foremost professional summer troupe, bring the house down every night during the summer with 19th century melodrama, comedy and variety shows. During, the third weekend of every July, barbershop singers from throughout the west come to Virginia City to stage their annual Mid-Summer Glow. Wherever four of them are gathered that weekend, whether it be in a dining room or on the boardwalk, there is harmony.

Travel between the two mining camps on the Alder Gulch Short Line Railroad. At the Nevada City end of the line, visit the Alder Gulch Short Line Steam Railroad Museum with its collection of equipment and stock from railroading's gold rush era.

Dine in the Wells Fargo Coffee House or the Star Bakery and bend an elbow in the Bale of Hay Saloon or Gilbert's Brewery. Modern, overnight accommodations in a charming, 19th century atmosphere are available.

Virginia City and Nevada City are open for tours between mid-June and Labor Day. For overnight stops, groups are advised to arrive between 2 and 4 p.m. and can be on their way by 8 a.m. the following day. Luncheon tours need three hours. All groups are greeted. Minimum time: Two hours. Admission charged.

For more information, contact:

The Bovey Restoration
P.O. Box 3454
Missoula, MT 59806
406-251-3017 (Sept. 20 - May 20)

Box 338
Virginia City, MT 59755
406-843-5377 (May 21 - Sept. 19)

CUSTER BATTLEFIELD: SITE OF CUSTER'S LAST STAND

When the once expansive frontier became too small for both Indians and whites, the Northern Plains tribes and the U.S. Government fought battle after battle to win dominion of the West. The most famous of these battles was fought June 25, 1876, when Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer and his entire command of 225 suffered death and humiliating defeat at the hands of an underestimated force of Sioux and Cheyenne warriors. More than 100 years have passed, but the site of "Custer's Last Stand" continues to illustrate an important part of America's western heritage.

The actual battlefield and much of the surrounding land have been preserved as a national monument. Here you will walk along the bluffs that hid the huge Indian encampment from Custer's troops. Here, you ill see the memorial that marks the common grave of the dead. Here, with the help of park rangers, you will study the ill-fated strategy of the 7th Cavalry. A Visitor Center with museum exhibits and interpretive events will round out your understanding of the famous battle.

There are no camping, picnicking or overnight facilities at the Custer Battlefield National Monument.

The battlefield lies within the Crow Indian Reservation in southeastern Montana. The nearest towns are Crow Agency, 2 miles north, and Hardin, 18 miles north. The nearest city, Billings, is 65 miles northwest. The battlefield lies between Billings and Sheridan, Wyoming, on I-90. It can also be reached from the east on U.S. 212, which connects the battlefield to the Black Hills and Yellowstone National Park.

The battlefield is open year-round. Summer hours are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. During the winter, the battlefield is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Special tours, by arrangement, for groups. Minimum time: Two hours. Admission free.

For more information, contact:

Superintendent
Custer Battlefield National Monument
P.O. Box 39
Crow Agency, MT 59022
406-638-2622

Headstone marker stands in memory of soldiers who fell at Custer's Last Stand

CITIES AND ATTRACTIONS

ANACONDA

Location: Southwestern Montana, 9 miles off I-90 west of Butte
Population: 12,500
Information: Anaconda Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 757 (59711)
406-563-2400

This town sprang up when the giant Anaconda Copper Mining Company of Butte needed a smelter for its vast amounts of copper ore. "Copper King" Marcus Daly chose the site in 1883 because of the ample supply of water and limestone nearby. The city was first called Copperopolis and later was named after the mining company. In 1980, the Anaconda Company shut down its smelter operation in Anaconda, putting an end to her historic economic base. The idle smokestack stands over 585 feet high and measures 86 feet in diameter at the base.

BIG TIMBER

Location: Southcentral Montana on I-90
Population: 1,700
Information: Big Timber Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 1012 (59011)
406-932-2105

Big Timber's name came from the large cottonwood trees that grew along the bank of the creek near town. An abundance of grasses and flowering plants spurred development of livestock ranches and honey-bee hives. Big Timber is the center of a vast sheep-producing area and was the site of Montana's first woolen mill.

BILLINGS

Location: Southcentral Montana near the junction of I-90 and I-94
Population: 75,000
Information: Billings Area Convention and Visitors Bureau
306 North Broadway (59101)
406-252-8855

Billings is Montana's largest city and the financial center of Montana's growing energy industry. Shielded on the north by the Rimrocks, Billings was established in 1882 with the coming of the Northern Pacific Railroad. Two years later the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad arrived and further boosted the economy. Today it is a major shipping center for cattle and other agricultural products. Billings has a professional basketball team and a professional hockey team which perform in the METRA, a 12,000-seat sports arena. The METRA also hosts the NILE rodeo, held each year in October. Other major events are Greater Billings Week in June and the Yellowstone Exhibition in August.

Attractions:

PICTOGRAPH CAVES STATE MONUMENT
7 miles S.E. of Billings, off I-90
c/o Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Parks Division, Helena (59620)
406-449-3750

Located in the sandstone outcroppings of the Bitter Creek Valley, this state monument preserves the remains of a prehistoric culture 5,000 years old. Among the most interesting things to be seen in the caves are the ancient paintings found on the back walls. This major archaeological site has interpretive panels to describe how man utilized this environment to fulfill his needs. Some steep grades on trails to caves.

Open daily May 1 - November 1, 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Minimum time: One hour. Admission free.

OSCAR'S DREAMLAND
5 miles south of Billings on Shiloh Road
c/o Billings Convention and Visitors Bureau
306 N. Broadway (59101)
406-252-8855

Situated on 300 arcres, this is the world's largest private collection of farm artifacts. The collection includes over 500 major units of steam, gas and horsedrawn machinery. There is also an old-time main street of restored buildings.

Open daily June - October, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Special tours for groups by arrangement. Group rates available. Minimum time: 30 minutes. Admission charged.

WESTERN HERITAGE CENTER
2822 Montana Avenue (59101)
406-248-4901

This regional museum contains historic and cultural exhibits, presents educational programs and houses special cultural events.

Tuesday - Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Special tours for groups. Minimum time: One hour. Admission free.

YELLOWSTONE ART CENTER
401 N. 27th Street (59101)
406-259-1869

This former county jail building is now a regional art center with six galleries featuring local, regional and national historic and contemporary art exhibitions. Lectures, concerts and films are a regular part of the programming.

Tuesday - Friday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, noon - 5 p.m. Thursday 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Special tours for groups. Minimum time: One hour. Admission free.

Industrial Tours:

COLSTRIP MINE AND POWER PLANT
c/o Mary Haugian - Western Energy Co.
P.O. Box 67, Colstrip (59323)
406-748-2366

Tours of this coal mining operation and power plant operate on a regular basis and last approximately 1½ hours. Memorial Day-Labor Day, Monday - Friday, weather permitting. Special tours for groups by arrangement. Tour is by vehicle and includes a tour of the strip-mining operation, reclamation project and power plant.

CONOCO, INC.
401 South 23rd
P.O. Box 2548 (59103)
406-252-3841

Petroleum refinery...oil, gas, butane. 1½ hour tour includes film, tour through the control room, shop and lab. No cameras or sketches permitted. Contact plant manager.

JERSEY CREAMERY
910 Poly Drive (59102)
406-245-6601

Dairy processing of milk. 20-minute tours, Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. Contact plant manager.

MONTANA POWER GENERATING STEAM PLANT
301 Sharlene Street (59101)
406-252-0591

Thermo generating plant. 1½ hour tours, Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Persons under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. One-half-hour talk then tour of control room. Minimum for tour 5, maximum 25.

BOZEMAN

Location: I-90 60 miles north of Yellowstone National Park
Population: 22,000
Information: Bozeman Convention and Visitors Bureau
P.O. Box B (59715)
406-586-5421

In 1864, John Bozeman led a wagon train over the Bozeman Pass into the Gallatin Valley, where his friends W. J. Beall and D. E. Rouse staked out the townsite for the City of Bozeman. Located in this beautiful mountain-surrounded valley only 60 miles from Yellowstone National Park, Bozeman has become one of Montana's major tourist and agricultural centers. Another important part of this thriving community is Montana State University. Established in 1893 as Montana State College, MSU has become the largest unit of the Montana University system, with some 10,000 students. MSU offers a diversified curricula with emphasis on engineering and agricultural studies. The MSU Fieldhouse, which seats 13,000, is the site of the College National Finals Rodeo each June. Other annual events include the Montana Winter Fair in January and the Sweet Pea Festival in August. Bozeman is an important winter recreation area with two major ski areas nearby. Bridger Bowl is located 16 miles north of town and Big Sky of Montana is 45 miles south.

Attractions:

MUSEUM OF THE ROCKIES
South 7th and Kagy Blvd.
Montana State University (59717)
406-994-2251

This museum on the Montana State University campus houses objects of historic and cultural importance from the Northern Rocky Mountains. Displays include dinosaurs and dinosaur eggs unearthed in Montana, Plains Indian artifacts, Western art and "hands on" exhibits.

Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Closed Mondays October - May. Special tours for groups. Minimum time: One hour. Admission free.

SOUTH WILLSON HISTORIC DISTRICT
South Willson Avenue
c/o Museum of the Rockies
Montana State University (59717)
406-994-2251

The 48 houses within the South Willson Historic District represent one of the finest residential areas to be found anywhere. The buildings range in size from large mansions to small cottages, differing in style and representing a time span from 1883 to the 1960s. Walking tour and bus tour. Brochures available at the Museum of the Rockies - no charge. Minimum time: One hour.

Guided Tours:

MUSEUM OF THE ROCKIES
South 7th and Kagy Blvd.
Montana State University (59717)
406-994-2251

Board a vintage Yellowstone Park bus for a tour of the special points of interest in and around Bozeman, including the South Willson Historic District, the MSU campus and Fort Ellis. Tours will depart from the Museum on a regular schedule.

Duration of tour: One hour. Admission charged.

Industrial Tours:

COLOR WORLD OF MONTANA
201 E. Mendenhall (59715)
406-587-4508

Printing and publishing company. Tours by appointment only. Duration of tour: 30 minutes-one hour.

SUMMIT ENGINEERING
2311 South 7th Avenue (59715)
406-587-4511

Electronics manufacturing. One-hour tour, maximum of 10 persons, children must be accompanied by an adult.

BROWNING

Location: 15 miles east of Glacier National Park at Jct. of U.S. 2 and 89
Population: 1,200
Information: Blackfeet Tribal Business Council
Browning (59417)
406-338-7511

Browning is the agency headquarters for the one-and-one-half-million-acre Blackfeet Indian Reservation. Although the majority of the reservation Blackfeet today live much like the residents of any Western community, they have maintained many of their cultural traditions. Painted tipis, colorful feather headdresses and beaded deerskin costumes are used on special occasions such as the North American Indian Days celebration held each July.

Attractions:

MUSEUM OF THE PLAINS INDIAN
Junction of U.S. 2 and 89
P.O. Box 400 (59417)
406-338-2230

The Museum of the Plains Indian exhibits the creative achievements of the Native American artists and craftsmen of the United States, past and present. There is a permanent exhibit and two special exhibition galleries devoted to changing presentations. The Museum's sales shop offers a wide variety of authentic, contemporary Native American arts and crafts.

Open daily, June - September, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. October - May, Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Special tours for groups. Minimum time: 30 minutes. Admission free.

MUSEUM OF MONTANA WILDLIFE
Junction of U.S. 2 and 89
P.O. Box 172 (59417)
406-338-4525

Bob Scriver, nationally known sculptor, is the owner and curator of this museum, which houses wildlife exhibits, dioramas, 30 large John Fery oil paintings of Glacier Park and Bob Scriver's original bronze sculptures.

Open daily June - September, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Special tours for groups. Minimum time: 20 minutes. Admission charged.

BUTTE

Location: Junction of I-90 and I-15 in southwestern Montana
Population: 37,000
Information: Butte-Silver Bow Chamber of Commerce
2950 Harrison Avenue (59701)
406-494-5595

An insignificant gold camp in 1864, Butte (pronounced byoot) almost became a ghost town as its shallow placers played out. But a few hardy prospectors stayed on, and in the early 1870s, Butte boomed again with the discovery of large deposits of silver ore. Marcus Daly came to Butte when the rich strikes of 1874 were reported. Instead of silver, he found the richest vein of copper known. The vein was 50 feet wide, and Daly became the head of one of the world's most powerful monopolies, the Anaconda Copper Mining Company. By 1900, the Butte Hill and its huge copper deposits had become known as "the richest hill on earth." There are some 250 miles of streets on the surface of the hill, and more than 2,000 miles of corridors and tunnels underground. Butte has known her ups and downs in 80 years of copper mining, but today she's still a capital of the mining world.

Each year in August, Butte celebrates the Butte Ethnic Festival. And in March, everyone who takes St. Patrick's Day seriously should visit Butte.

Attractions:

ARTS CHATEAU
321 West Broadway (59701)
406-723-7600

Originally built in 1900 by Charles Walker Clark, eldest son of "Copper King" William Andrews Clark, the museum reflects

Butte's affluent past. In 1926, Marshall Field and Co. of Chicago redecorated this reproduction of a European chateau for its owner, Senator James E. Murray. In 1980, new gallaries were created to provide a professional art gallery for the community. Works by regional and internationally-known artists are shown in the Chateau's three galleries.

Tuesday - Sunday, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Special tours for groups. Minimum time: 15 minutes. Admission free.

BERKELEY PIT
c/o Butte-Silver Bow Chamber of Commerce
2950 Harrison Avenue (59701)
406-494-5595

The Berkeley Pit, located on the east side of Butte Hill, is among the largest open-pit copper mines in the world, producing 42,000 tons of ore daily. The pit itself is 7,700 feet long, 5,600 feet wide and measures 1,800 feet at its deepest point. This is a truck-operated mine and there are 20 miles of roads running through the pit. Tours are conducted by the Anaconda Minerals Company, but are booked through the Chamber of Commerce. Tour begins at the Berkeley Pit Viewing Stand where visitors are taken, by bus, into the Berkeley Pit and to the minerals concentrator.

June - Labor Day, daily at 1 p.m. and special tours by arrangement. Minimum time: 90 minutes. Admission free.

COPPER KING MANSION
219 W. Granite Street (59701)
206-782-7580

From the intimate billard room to the 62-foot long ballroom, this 32-room red brick mansion typifies Victorian elegance. Built by Senator William A. Clark, its many rooms have frescoed walls and ceilings, paneled and trimmed with many fine woods.

Open daily 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Guided tour lasts 45 minutes. Admission charged.

MINERAL MUSEUM
Montana Tech Campus, West Park St.
Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology (59701)
406-496-4414

Approximately 1,300 mineral specimens are on display at the Museum. These include cryptomelane from Philipsburg, Montana, and quartz from Switzerland. A display of fluorescent minerals is exhibited in a separate room.

Open daily, June - Labor Day, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Open weekdays the remainder of year and Sundays 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Special tours arranged by phoning: 406-792-4414. Minimum time: 30 minutes. Admission free.

WORLD MUSEUM OF MINING AND HELL ROARIN' GULCH
West Park and Granite Street
c/o Butte-Silver Bow Chamber of Commerce
2950 Harrison Avenue (59701)
406-494-5595

This unique attraction features unusual indoor and outdoor exhibits containing thousands of articles common to the mines and miner's way of life. Hell Roarin' Gulch is a reconstructed turn-of-the century mining camp with cobblestone streets. Building to be found here include a general store, assay office, saloon, drug store and soda fountain, just to name a few. At the "U-Betcha" gold mine, one can actually pan for gold.

Open daily, June - Labor Day, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Rest of the year, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Closed December - February. Minimum time: 30 minutes. Admission free.

Guided Tours:

OLD NO. 1
c/o Butte-Silver Bow Chamber of Commerce
2950 Harrison Avenue (59701)
406-494-5595

Hop on this replica of an early-day streetcar for a tour of uptown and downtown historic Butte. The trolley can accommodate 30-35 passengers for a 90-minute tour. Tour departs from the Chamber of Commerce office four times daily, including an evening trip. Special tours can be arranged. June - Labor Day. Admission charged.

CHOTEAU

Location: Junction of U.S. 89 and 287, 55 miles northwest of Great Falls.
Population: 1,800
Information: Choteau Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 10 (59422)
406-466-5749

This small agricultural community began as a trading post in the 1870s. It was named for Pierre Chouteau, Jr., president of the American Fur Company, who brought the first steamboat up the Missouri River.

Attractions:

TETON TRAIL VILLAGE
North end of town on U.S. 287
Choteau (59422)
406-466-5332

The village has an old-fashioned ice cream parlor, antique shop, Indian bead shop and jewelry store, gingham shop, Western museum and an art center.

Open daily, Memorial Day - Labor Day, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Special tours for groups. Minimum time: 30 minutes. Admission free.

COLUMBIA FALLS

Location: Off U.S. 2, 17 miles west of Glacier National Park
Population: 3,100
Information: Columbia Falls Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 312 (59912)
406-892-2072

Columbia Falls is located at the majestic entrance to Bad-Rock Canyon and is the incorporated community nearest to Glacier Park's western entrance and to Hungry Horse Dam. Columbia Falls is the industrial hub of the Flathead, the home of several large lumber mills and the Anaconda Minerals Co. Aluminum Division.

Industrial Tours:

ANACONDA MINERALS COMPANY
Public Relations Office
Columbia Falls (59912)
406-892-3261

No regular tours are given at this facility, but special tours can be arranged. Tour lasts 1-1½ hours with a maximum of 35 people. Children under 14 years of age are not permitted.

HUNGRY HORSE DAM
Hungry Horse (59919)
406-387-5241

Federal dam located between Columbia Falls and Glacier National Park. Special guided tour of this hydro-electric power plant can be arranged, May 20 - September 30. Tour begins at the top of the dam and lasts approximately one hour. Self-guided tour also available.

CULBERTSON

Location: U.S. 2, 20 miles from North Dakota
Population: 900
Information: Culbertson Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 496 (59218)
406-787-5821

After being visited by Lewis and Clark in 1805, fur trappers came to the area is 1807. The town was founded in 1887 and became a trading center for the cattle industry. At one time 13 saloons were open for business 24 hours a day in this little town. Today, Culbertson is the home of the Northeast Montana Threshing Antique Association.

CUT BANK

Location: Northwestern Montana, U.S. 2, east edge of Blackfeet Reservation
Population: 3,700
Information: Cut Bank Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 1243 (59427)
406-873-4041

The town began in 1891 when the Great Northern Railroad pushed west of Kalispell. Cut Bank was an early-day cattle empire. The population jumped from 845 in 1939 to 4,539 in 1960 when oil and gas fields were discovered and continued to produce. Gas piped from this region is used in the home of Great Falls, Helena, Butte and Anaconda. Cattle and grain continue to be a mainstay in the economy of Cut Bank.

DEER LODGE

Location: Southwestern Montana on I-90
Population: 4,000
Information: Deer Lodge Chamber of Commerce
300 Main Street (59722)
406-846-2094

In the 1850s, Johnny Grant settled in the Deer Lodge Valley and established what was to become one of the largest ranching operations in the country. Along with its thriving agricultural economy, Deer Lodge was also selected as the site for the Montana Territorial Prison, which opened its doors in 1871. The Northern Pacific Railroad arrived in 1883 and Deer Lodge was the end of the line for immigrants heading west.

Attractions:

GRANT KOHRS RANCH NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE
Hwy. 10, east of town
P.O. Box 799 (59722)
406-846-2070

Early ranch life is portrayed on this beautifully preserved ranch. The main house shows the prosperity of this ranching and business operation. Its carefully preserved interior includes original furnishings from several decades, reflecting the most stylish furniture available during that period. All the out-buildings, including the blacksmith shop, buggy shed and chicken house, have also been preserved. In season, visitors can watch the blacksmith and ranch hands at work, 19th century style. Guided tours through the ranch house.

Open daily all year 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Special tours for groups. Minimum time: One hour.

MONTANA TERRITORIAL PRISON
1000 Main Street
P.O. Box 748 (59722)
406-846-3111

The first prisoner was accepted here on July 2, 1871, and the last prisoners were transferred to the new State Prison in October 1979. Throughout its history, this site has served as a federal, territorial and finally, a state penitentiary. It is comprised of 12 historic structures surrounded by a high sandstone wall.

Guided tours last 1-1½ hours. Some stair-climbing. Open daily, spring - fall, 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., tours conducted hourly. 1-3 tours daily rest of year. Admission charged.

TOWE ANTIQUE FORD COLLECTION
1106 Main Street
P.O. Box 748 (59722)
406-846-3111

Edward Towe's collection of cars is displayed in the Old Montana Territorial Prison. Here you will find the most complete antique Ford collection in existence, about 150 cars. There is a complete set of phaetons (1928-1938) and a complete set of roadsters (1928-1937). All cars are beautifully restored to their original condition. Model T rides around town offered in summer.

Open daily during summer months, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Winter hours, Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, noon - 5:30 p.m. Special tours for groups. Minimum time: 30 minutes. Admission charged.

DILLON

Location: I-15, 65 miles north of Idaho State Line
Population: 4,000
Information: Dillon Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 830 (59725)
406-683-5511

Dillon is the county seat of Beaverhead County, Montana's largest county. Dillon began as an important shipping point from Utah to the gold fields of Montana. The Utah and Northern Railroad reached Dillon in the fall of 1880, but the town was named for the president of the Union Pacific Railroad, Sidney V. Dillon. A rich agricultural valley, sheep were introduced here in 1869, and at one time Dillon was the largest wool shipping point in Montana. The first cattle were brought to the valley in 1865 and they, too, have played a major role in Dillon's development. The Montana Normal College was established in Dillon in 1892 and is now called Western Montana College.

Attractions:

BANNACK STATE PARK
Off Secondary Hwy. 278 west of Dillon
c/o Fish, Wildlife and Parks Department
Parks Division, Helena (59620)
406-449-3750

Bannack was the site of Montana's first major gold discovery in 1862. Abandoned since 1938, Montana's oldest town and first territorial capital is an excellent example of historic frontier camps and mining towns. Most buildings are of wood frame and log construction. All are typical of the frontier boom town era. A walking tour of this ghost town includes Sheriff Henry Plummer's Gallows, the Hotel Meade and the Masonic Temple and School.

Take U.S. 91 south of Dillon to milepost 57, then travel northwest on Secondary Route 278, 21 miles. The last few miles of road are unpaved, but in good condition. Minimum time: One hour. Admission free.

FORT BENTON

Location: U.S. 87, 42 miles northeast of Great Falls
Population: 1,700
Information: Fort Benton Community Improvement Assoc.
P.O. Box 313 (59442)
406-662-5254

Fort Benton's significance in the early settlement of Montana is immeasurable. No other town played such a prominent role in the opening of the Northwest from 1860-1887. As a trading post, military fort and head of steamboat navigation, Fort Benton was an important overland connection.

Attractions:

LEWIS AND CLARK MEMORIAL
c/o John Lepley
817 Main Street (59442)
406-622-3278

This Bob Scriver sculpture of Lewis and Clark, Sacajawea and her papoose, Pomp, overlooks the Missouri River. A tour of the memorial explains the project, the sculpture and the history and significance of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

Available to see all year. Special tours for groups. Minimum time: 30 minutes. Admission free.

FORT BENTON LANDMARK DISTRICT
c/o John Lepley
817 Main Street (59442)
406-622-3278

This historic landmark district includes the interiors, as well as exteriors of several buildings on the National Register of Historic Places. The Fort Benton Museum depicts Missouri

River history with 500 photos and dioramas of Fort Benton. Tour also includes a walk along the historic steamboat levee.

Museum is open mid-May to November, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Special tours for groups. Minimum time to visit landmark district: Two hours. Admission free.

FORT PECK

Location: Northeastern Montana, south of Fort Peck Indian Reservation, off U.S. 2
Population: 1,200
Information: Fort Peck Fine Arts Council
Box 973, Glasgow (59230)
406-228-2317

Fort Peck is a planned city built by government engineers as headquarters for construction and operation of the huge Fort Peck Dam. Construction of the dam began in 1933 upon approval of President Franklin D. Roosevelt under the Public Works Administration.

Industrial Tours:

FORT PECK DAM
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 208 (59223)
406-526-3411

Fort Peck Dam is one of the world's oldest and largest hydraulic earthfill dams - an earthen structure that stretches across the Missouri from bluff to bluff, a distance of over 3½ miles. Fort Peck Lake has a shoreline of over 1,500 miles. Museum at dam site includes fossils of dinosaurs, armored fishes and swimming reptiles.

Open daily, Memorial Day - Labor Day, 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Guided tour lasts one hour. Maximum of 20 persons per tour.

Summer Theater:

FORT PECK SUMMER THEATRE
Montana Route 24
Box 973, Glasgow (59230)
406-228-2317

Performances are held in the 1,200-seat Fort Peck Theatre each Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June through August. Past performances include: "I Do! I Do!," "Oklahoma," "The Odd Couple," "Fiddler on the Roof," "Camelot" and "Barefoot in the Park."

GLASGOW

Location: Northeastern Montana on U.S. 2, north of Fort Peck Lake
Population: 4,400
Information: Glasgow Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 832 (59230)
406-228-2222

Established in 1887 during the building of the Great Northern Railroad, Glasgow was named in honor of Glasgow, Scotland. The sleepy little shipping station for cattle, sheep and grain woke up when construction began on Fort Peck Dam in 1933. Location of the Glasgow Air Force Base here in 1955 further boosted the economy.

GLENDIVE

Location: I-94, 35 miles from North Dakota State Line
Population: 6,000
Information: Glendive Chamber of Commerce
Box 930 (59330)
406-365-5601

Glendive is the trading and shipping center of an area that produces sugar beets, grain and forage crops. Energy exploration and development is a growing force in Glendive's economy.

Attractions:

MAKOSHIKA STATE PARK
3 miles S.E. of Glendive off I-94
c/o Chamber of Commerce
Box 930 (59330)
406-365-5601

Weird formations, sculptured by wind and water can be seen from turnouts which overlook a broad vista of badlands. The deep gorges, rugged cliffs, haystack buttes, spires and "toadstool" formations resulted from millions of years of erosion. The Sioux Indians called this place Makoshika (pronounced ma-KO-shi-ka), meaning "bad earth" or "bad land." Many fossils have been found in the Makoshika badlands. Over 10 species of dinosaurs, including the flesh-eating Tyrannosaurus Rex, have been identified. Guided tours available through the Chamber of Commerce.

Open daily, April - November, daylight hours. Minimum time: One hour. Admission free.

GREAT FALLS

Location: West central Montana at Jct. of I-15, U.S. 87 and 89
Population: 57,000
Information: Great Falls Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 2127 (59403)
406-761-4434

Known as the "Electric City" because of its numerous dams and powerplants, Great Falls is Montana's second largest city and a thriving community. Great Falls was an important stop for Lewis and Clark who, in 1805, discovered and named the Great Falls of the Missouri about 12 miles down-river from the city. It was here, too, that famed western artist Charles M. Russell chose to live and work. Today, Great Falls is the site of Malmstrom Air Force Base, the center of our nation's first Minuteman Missile Complex. Located in the center of some of Montana's largest wheat farms, agriculture also plays an important role in this community. Major events that draw visitors to Great Falls are the PRCA Montana Circuit Finals Rodeo in January, the C.M. Russell Auction of Original Western Art in March and the State Fair in July.

Attractions:

CHARLES M. RUSSELL ORIGINAL STUDIO AND HOUSE
12th Street and 4th Avenue North
c/o Charles M. Russell Museum and Gallery
1201 4th Avenue North (59401)
406-452-7369

This is the former home and studio of Montana's famous cowboy artist Charlie Russell. Preserved as it was in the early 1900s, the studio includes displays of Russell memorbilia.

Open May 15 - Labor Day, Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sunday 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Winter hours - Tuesday - Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sunday, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Special tours for groups. Minimum time: 30 minutes. Admission free.

CHARLES M. RUSSELL MUSEUM AND GALLERY
1201 4th Avenue North (59401)
406-452-7369

This museum contains Charles M. Russell's original drawings, paintings and sculptures, along with traveling art exhibits.

Open May 15 - Labor Day, Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sunday 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Winter hours - Tuesday - Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sunday 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Special tours for groups. Minimum time: One hour. Admission charged.

GIANT SPRINGS STATE PARK
4 miles NE of Great Falls
c/o Great Falls Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 2127 (59403)
406-761-4434

Located four miles northeast of the city on Missouri River Drive, Giant Springs is the largest freshwater springs in the

world. First discovered by Lewis and Clark in 1805, the springs flow at a measured rate of 316,300,000 gallons every 24 hours - a veritable underground river. Lovely picnic grounds and a state fish hatchery are adjacent to this attractive site.

Open daily year-round. Minimum time: One-half hour. Admission free.

ULM PISHKUN STATE MONUMENT
4 miles NW of Ulm
c/o Great Falls Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 2127 (59403)
406-761-4434

Pishkun is the Indian name for a buffalo jump or kill area. The Ulm Pishkun was used by Indians for nearly a thousand years to provide the basic necessities of life. Trails through the Ulm Pishkun Monument allow a visitor to view the deposits of bones left for centuries, along with tepee rings left from Indian encampments and Indian paintings on rock walls. A prairie dog town is located on the bluff along the entrance roadway. Go south from Great Falls on I-15 to Ulm, then turn west and follow the signs to the Pishkun. Unpaved road. Minimum time: One hour. Admission free.

Industrial Tours:

MONTANA POWER COMPANY - RYAN DAM
101 Central Avenue (59401)
406-453-0321

Hydroelectric power plant. Summer hours, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Advance notice required. Duration of tour: One hour. Public picnic grounds.

HAMILTON

Location: 47 miles south of Missoula on U.S. 93
Population: 2,700
Information: Bitterroot Valley Chamber of Commerce
105 E. Main (59840)
406-363-2400

Hamilton is the business center of the Bitterroot Valley. Among the many who have developed an affection for this corner of the world was Copper King Marcus Daly, who bought a large stock farm here, built a mansion and a lake, which he stocked with trout. He built a barn and named it "Tammany Castle" in honor of one of his fine racing horses. Daly was instrumental in getting the county seat moved from Stevensville to Hamilton. The beautiful Bitterroot Valley was named for the Bitterroot plant that grew here profusely when Lewis and Clark first saw it.

Attractions:

ST. MARY'S MISSION
South Charlo's Street - Stevensville
P.O. Box 228 (59870)
406-777-5574

Historic St. Mary's Mission was established by Father DeSmet in 1841 as Montana's first church. The mission was closed in 1850 and not reopened until 1866. At that time the mission church, which still stands today, was erected. The mission church remained in use until 1954 when a new church was built. The present mission grounds include the church, the priests' quarters, the pharmacy and the cemetery. The pharmacy now houses many artifacts, most of which were actually used at the mission.

Open Memorial Day - Labor Day, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Special tours for groups. Minimum time: One hour. Admission free.

HAVRE

Location: Northcentral Montana on U.S. 2
Population: 12,000
Information: Havre Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 308 (59501)
406-265-4383

Founded in 1891, Havre (pronounced HAV-er) was one of the "cow towns" of the Old West. Cowboys from the big cattle outfits in the area used it as a trading center and a place to "hole up" for the winter. Today, Havre is the home of Northern Montana College and is an important commercial center on the "Hi-Line."

Attractions:

H. EARL CLACK MEMORIAL MUSEUM
West Havre
Box 1675 (59501)
406-265-9641

Located on the Hill County Fairgrounds, just west of Havre, the H. Earl Clack Museum gives an accurate picture of the history and development of Havre and the Hi-Line area. The museum features an archaeological excavation of a buffalo jump site and a follow-up to the buffalo kill, explaining it in detail. Four dioramas grace the museum, one by the nationally known artist, Bob Scriver of Browning.

Open daily Memorial Day - Labor Day, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Special tours for groups. Minimum time: 30 minutes. Admission free.

HELENA

Location: Western Motnana at Jct. of I-15 & U.S. 12
Population: 25,700
Information: Helena Chamber of Commerce
201 E. Lyndale (59601)
406-442-4120

Helena (pronounced HEL-e-na) owes its existence to the gold discoveries in Last Chance Gulch by four Georgia prospectors in the summer of 1864. The discovery of placer gold and quartz gold and silver, as well as lead, created an overnight boom town. In 1875, Helena became the capital of Montana Territory. When Montana became a state, the fight for location of the state capital pitted "Copper King" Marcus Daly and Anaconda against rival William A. Clark, who supported Helena. Helena won, and in October 1898, ground was broken for the new Capitol. Helena still the seat of Montana's state government, is famous for more than government and politics. Every year, visitors are drawn by the Last Chance Stampede and Rodeo, the Western Rendezvous of Art and Electrum, a local arts festival.

Attractions:

CATHEDRAL OF ST. HELENA
Corner of Lawrence and Warren
530 North Ewing Street (59601)
406-442-5825

The Cathedral of St. Helena was constructed at the turn of the century through the effort of Thomas Cruse, a wealthy miner. It is patterned after the Votive Cathedral in Vienna and is richly decorated with European stained glass windows, white marble altars and statues and genuine gold leaf. There is an audio historical tour of the building provided at no charge. Mass is conducted daily.

Open daily, 8 a.m. - 9 p.m. in summer months and 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. in winter months. Special tours for groups - small fee for this. Minimum time for tour: One hour.

FRONTIER TOWN
15 miles west of Helena on U.S. 12
P.O. Box 836 (59624)
406-442-4560

This authentic log and rock village, sitting high atop the Continental Divide, is furnished with real objects of the frontier. Inside the main building is a gift shop, bar and dining room. The furniture is all handmade from logs held together with wooden pegs. The bar itself is constructed from a single Douglas fir log over 50 feet long and originally weighing some six tons. The dining room, with its mammoth fireplace, capped by a 50,000-pound mantle rock, can accommodate bus tours easily for a meal stop.

Open daily April 1 - October 15, 9 a.m. - 10 p.m. Winter hours are different. Special tours can be arranged for groups. Minimum time: 45 minutes. Admission charged, or buy a $2.00 Frontier Town coin that gains you admission and is redeem-

able for its full value in the gift shop, bar or dining room. Driver and escort admitted free and give complimentary meal when eating with group.

MONTANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
225 N. Roberts (59620)
406-449-2694

The museum, on the main floor level, tells the history of Montana in visual sequence - from prehistoric times through industrial development - in dioramas and display cases. Territory Junction, the street museum on the ground floor level, further illuminates the story, with 13 business establishments in a typical town of the 1880s, featuring the goods and services available as Montana approached statehood. Also housed in the Historical Society is a fine collection of Charles M. Russell originals and the Poindexter Gallery, which features art shows. A comprehensive book store on Western history and art is in the lobby area.

Open daily during the summer, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Winter hours, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. closed Sunday. Special tours for groups. Minimum time: One hour. Admission free.

ORIGINAL GOVERNOR'S MANSION
304 N. Ewing
c/o Montana Historical Society, 225 N. Roberts (59620)
406-449-2694

Constructed in 1885 for wealthy industrialist W. A. Chessman, this building served as the Helena home for Montana governors from 1913 to 1959. It contains 20 rooms and seven fireplaces, all restored to turn-of-the-century elegance and furnished with antiques. Tours are conducted on a regular basis and concentrate on the history of the house and its furnishings and also include the Mansion's carriage house during warm weather.

June - August, Tuesday - Sunday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. September - May, Tuesday - Saturday, Noon - 5 p.m. Special tours can be arranged. Tours last 40 minutes. Admission free.

STATE CAPITOL
Montana Avenue and Sixth Avenue
c/o Department of Administration (59620)
406-449-3060

On a gentle slope, surrounded by 10 acres of spacious lawns and other State buildings, Montana's Capitol looks north over the beautiful Prickley Pear Valley. The building in constructed of Columbus limestone and granite. A Statutue depicting Liberty sits atop the copper dome. A walk through the Capitol will allow you to view many beautiful paintings, including Charles M. Russell's magnificent historical depiction of Lewis and Clark meeting the Indians at Ross' Hole September 5, 1805. The main section of the Capitol was completed in 1902.

Tours conducted Memorial Day - Labor Day, hourly. Duration of tour: 40 minutes. Admission free.

Guided Tours:

GATES OF THE MOUNTAINS BOAT TOURS
16 miles north of Helena off I-15
P.O. Box 478 (59624)
406-458-5241

This area was named by Captain Lewis of the Lewis and Clark Expedition in 1805. Towering cliffs appear to block the way up the Missouri River. As they neared the cliffs and changed directions, the cliffs seemed to pull apart like a huge gate. This spectacular gorge is reached only by boat or trail. Ninety-passenger excursion boats operate from Hilger Landing and make a stop at the Meriweather Picnic Ground. You may stay for as long as you like at the picnic area and catch another excursion boat back.

Tours operate on a regular schedule from Memorial Day - Labor Day. Charter Service available for groups of 20 or more. Minimum time: 3 hours. Admission charged.

LAST CHANCER TOUR TRAIN
c/o Lee Holmes
3860 McHugh Drive (59601)
406-443-3189

The Last Chancer features narrated tours of the city which are informative and entertaining. The tour begins at the Montana Historical Society and covers most of the major points of interest in the city. Carroll College, the Pioneer Cabin, the Old Fire Tower and the elegant 19th century mansions constructed by Helena's wealthy miners and merchants are just a few of the things one can see on this tour.

Tours operate daily Memorial Day - Labor Day and depart from the Historical Society at 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Duration of tour: One hour. Admission charged.

Community Theater:

GRAND STREET THEATER
325 North Park Avenue (59601)
406-442-4270 - information
406-443-3311 - reservations

Live dramas and broadway musicals are performed year-round in the historic Grand Street Theater. Plays begin at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Past performances include "Fiddler on the Roof," "West Side Story" and "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest." Future performances to include "Pippin," "Arsenic and Old Lace," "Oklahoma" and "On Golden Pond."

Industrial Tours:

COLUMBIA PAINT COMPANY
1517 Dodge Avenue (59601)
406-442-7650

Complete paint manufacturing processes. Conducted tours Monday - Thursday, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Two weeks advance notice required. Tour lasts 45 minutes.

THE PARROT CONFECTIONARY
42 N. Main Street (59601)
406-442-1470

Candy manufacturing of all kinds. Conducted tours Monday - Saturday, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Duration of tour: 30-45 minutes. Maximum of 12 people per tour, large groups can be divided to accommodate.

STATE NURSERY AND SEED COMPANY GREENHOUSE
West of Helena on U.S 12, 3 miles
3790 U.S. 12 W. (59601)
406-442-2610

Commercial growers of cut flowers, potted plants, trees and shrubs. Conducted tours by appointment, Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Duration of tour: One hour.

KALISPELL

Location:	Northwest Montana at Junction of U.S. 2 and 93
Population:	10,600
Information:	Kalispell Convention and Visitors Bureau P.O. Box 978 (59901) 406-755-6166

Kalispell, located in the beautiful Flathead Valley, is fortunate to have one of the most diversified economies in Montana. Situated near Glacier National Park, Flathead Lake and Big Mountain ski area, tourism is big business here. Due to the mild climate and abundant precipitation, the Kalispell area not only produces livestock and grain crops, but also such moisture-loving crops as sweet cherries, seed potatoes, Christmas trees and peppermint. Another important industry is wood products. Kalispell is a lively and friendly town with many festive events throughout the year. Two major events are the Kalispell Art Show and the Big Sky Logging Championships.

Attractions:

HOCKADAY CENTER FOR THE ARTS
Second Avenue East and Third Street (59901)
406-755-5268

Housed in the old Kalispell City Library, a classic structure built in 1904 by the Carnegie Foundation, this facility has been renovated to include three exhibition galleries, a dark room, ceramics studio and classroom space. In addition to monthly exhibits, the Hockaday sponsors such groups as the

Spokane Symphony, Shakespeare in the Park and the Montana Repertory Theatre.

Tuesday - Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Special tours for groups. Minimum time: 30 minutes. Admission free.

CONRAD MANSION HISTORIC SITE MUSEUM
130 East Idaho Street
P.O. Box 1195 (59901)
406-755-6558

This 23-room mansion was designed by the famed architect Kirtland Cutter in 1895 as the home of E. C. Conrad, Montana pioneer, Missouri River freighter and founder of the City of Kalispell. All rooms have been completely furnished in Victorian antiques.

Open daily May 15 - October 31, 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. Tour of the mansion lasts 30 minutes. Admission charged.

Summer Theater:

BIGFORK SUMMER PLAYHOUSE
Bigfork (59911) 18 miles S.W. of Kalispell
406-837-4886

One of the finest summer theaters in the Northwest, the Bigfork Summer Playhouse presents Broadway musicals and comedies. Plays run from late June to Labor Day. All seats reserved. Past performances include "Can Can," "Dames at Sea" and "Guys & Dolls."

LEWISTOWN

Location: Center of Montana at Junction of U.S. 87, 191 and Montana 200
Population: 7,100
Information: Lewistown Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 818 (59457)
406-538-5436

Situated in the geographical center of the state, Lewistown began as a small trading post on the Carroll Trail between Helena and the mouth of the Musselshell River. Today it is surrounded by large cattle ranches and wheat farms and is still a major trading center.

Industrial Tours:

LEWISTOWN LIVESTOCK AUCTION
Fairgrounds Road (59457)
406-538-3471

Livestock sales. 9 a.m. on Tuesdays. One day notice for group tours.

LIBBY

Location: Extreme northwestern Montana at junction of U.S. 2 and Montana 37
Population: 2,700
Information: Libby Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 704 (59923)
406-293-3832

Libby is a lumberjack's town. In this mountainous northwest corner of the state, abundant with forests, Libby has one of the largest sawmills in Montana. A festive event held here each year is Libby Logger Days.

Attractions:

KOOTENAI FALLS VISTA
Off U.S. 2 between Libby and Troy
c/o Troy Ranger District
P.O. Box E, Troy (59935)
406-295-4693

The name Kootenai comes from a tribe of Indians (also known as Deer Robes) who lived in this region. They were credited with being the first deer hunters and tanners of hides among the Western Indians. This beautiful cascading waterfall on the Kootenai River is particularly impressive during spring runoff (May and June), but is enjoyable throughout the year. One can either stand at the lookout near U.S. 2, or climb down to the river to see the falls up close. Many folks prefer to cross the famed swinging bridge to view the falls from the north bank.

Open all day long, May - October. Minimum time: 15 minutes. Admission free.

ROSS CREEK SCENIC AREA GIANT CEDARS
Off Montana 56, south of Bull Lake
c/o Troy Ranger District
P.O. Box E, Troy (59935)
406-295-4693

This 100-acre scenic area is home to a grove of giant, ancient Western Red Cedars. Some of these trees grow up to 12 feet in diameter and 175 feet in height. The largest tree is estimated to be over 500 years old. A .9 mile graveled trail leads through the cedars and descriptive signing is in place for self-guided tours. The trail is very easy to walk. The grade is flat and there are several cedar foot bridges spanning Ross Creek. Benches are placed along the trail for rest and extended observation. The road into the Cedars area is paved, but is narrow and winding. Picnic tables, fireplaces and restrooms.

Open all day, June 1 - September 15. Special tours for groups. Minimum time: 45 minutes. Admission free.

Industrial Tours:

LIBBY DAM
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Star Route 2, (59923)
406-293-5577

Hydroelectric power plant. The powerhouse has 4 generating units rated at 105,000 kilowatts each. Lake Koocanusa, behind the dam, takes its name from KOO, in the Kootenai River, CAN in Canada, and USA in United States of America. Memorial Day - Labor Day, 8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m., daily. Duration of tour: 45 minutes.

ST. REGIS PAPER COMPANY, FOREST PRODUCTS DIVISION
East end of Spruce Street
P.O. Box V-X (59923)
406-293-4141

Wood products, plywood, lumber. One-hour-and-forty-five minute tours. Tour involves a mile of walking and extensive stair climbing, participants must be physically able. No one under 8 years of age. June - August, Monday - Friday.

LIVINGSTON

Location: I-90, 50 miles north of Yellowstone National Park
Population: 7,000
Information: Livingston Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 660 (59047)
406-222-0850

Livingston had its beginning in 1882, when the railroad arrived. Farming and mining were the economic mainstays in the early days. Later industries include fly-tying, lumber manufacturing and locomotive repair. Becaue of its location on the Yellowstone River, north of Yellowstone National Park, tourism is also a major industry here. On July 2, 3 and 4 of every year, Livingston hosts the rousing Livingston Roundup Rodeo.

Attractions:

PARK COUNTY MUSEUM
118 West Chinook (59047)
406-222-3506

This local museum is housed in the former North Side School, built in 1907. Interior and exterior displays include the Bottler Corner, Pioneer Paraphernalia, Home of Yesteryear, Native Cultures, an original Yellowstone Park stagecoach, a sheep wagon and a Northern Pacific caboose.

Open daily June 1 - Labor Day, 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Minimum time: 30 minutes. Admission free.

Industrial Tours:

BURKLAND STUDS
2 miles east of town
P.O. Box 498 (59047)
406-222-0939

Lumber manufacturing. Tours Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Maximum group of 10. Advance notice required. Duration of tour: One hour.

BURLINGTON NORTHERN RAILROAD SHOP FACILITIES
Park and 2nd (59047)
406-222-7313

Tours available with 24 hours advance notice. Groups from 5 to 30 can be accommodated. Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Tours last one hour.

MILES CITY

Location: Eastern Montana on I-94
Population: 9,100
Information: Miles City Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 730 (59301)
406-232-2890

The cavalry set up camp at the mouth of the Tongue River on the Yellowstone after the 1876 campaign of "rounding up hostile Indians." Their commanding officer was Colonel Nelson A. Miles and this camp was the beginning of Miles City. It soon became a stopping place on the long cattle drives from Texas. As the cattle industry became more important, it was fitting that the Montana Stockgrowers Assocation was formed here in 1884. The coming of the Northern Pacific Railroad in 1881 pre-determined that Miles City should become, and still is, a leading cattle market. Miles City is the home of a popular rodeo called the Bucking Horse Sale, held each year in May.

Attractions:

COFFRIN'S OLD WEST GALLERY
1600 Main Street (59301)
406-232-3076

This gallery houses the fine old collection of photographs by Montana's famous frontier photographer, L. A. Huffman. Huffman came to Montana Territory in 1878 to become Post Photographer at Fort Keogh, and later to open a studio in Miles City. This collection of photos is a magnificant pictorial history of that era from the last of the Indian Wars through the coming of the railroad and finally the cattlemen.

Monday - Saturday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., all year. Special tours for groups. Minimum time: 30 minutes. Admission free.

CUSTER COUNTY ART CENTER
Water Plant Road
P.O. Box 1284 (59301)
406-232-0635

The 4,000-square-foot gallery, created by renovating the old Miles City Water Treatment Plant, houses exhibits that are changed monthly. Past shows have included works by Goya, Rembrandt, Picasso and Charles M. Russell. With advance notice, gallery talks about current exhibits, demonstrations, classes and other special programs can be arranged. Picnic area in front of the Art Center with the Yellowstone River running just behind it.

Tuesday - Sunday, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m., all year. Special tours for groups. Minimum time: 30 minutes, if no special activities are planned. Admission free.

RANGE RIDERS MUSEUM AND MEMORIAL HALL
Old Highway 10 West
P.O. Box 723 (59301)
406-232-6146

This museum occupies the site of an old army cantonment built in 1876. Housed here is one of the finest collections of Western lore to be found anywhere. After the Army and buffalo hunting came the cattle and the cowboy, and that is the chronicle the Museum was built to portray. A visit to the museum will bring out the story of how these settlers lived and worked. Exhibits include guns, bits and spurs and Angora chaps.

Open daily, April 1 - September 30, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Special tours for groups. Minimum time: One hour. Admission charged.

MISSOULA

Location: I-90 at junction of U.S. 93 in western Montana
Population: 33,400
Information: Missoula Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 7577 (59807)
406-543-6623

Missoula, situated on the banks of the Clark Fork River, is the home of the University of Montana. This 8,300-student campus has outstanding schools of pharmacy, law, forestry, journalism, education and business administration. The campus also includes the 22,000-acre Lubrecht Experimental Forest, northeast of the city. The University hosts many cultural events throughout the year. Marshall Mountain and Montana Snow Bowl ski areas provides winter recreation nearby.

Attractions:

AERIAL FIRE DEPOT
U.S. 10, 7 miles west of city
Drawer "T", (59801)
406-329-3131

Smokejumpers are highly trained specialists who parachute into forested areas to fight the spread of wildfires. The largest training base for smokejumpers is located in Missoula. The visitor center at the Depot has pictures, murals, dioramas and motion pictures related to fire suppression. Guided tours are given of the parachute loft and training area.

June - Labor Day, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Duration of tour: One hour. Admission free. Minimum time to visit depot without tour: 15 minutes.

FORT MISSOULA AND HISTORICAL MUSEUM
South Avenue and Reserve Street
Building 322, Fort Missoula (59801)
406-728-0447

Built in 1877, Fort Missoula was one of the first military posts in Montana. It is now active as a home for National Guard and Reserve units. It is located on 28 acres, and depicts all phases of industry pertinent to the American West from 1880 to 1920. Constant changing of exhibits in Indoor Gallery.

Tuesday - Saturday, Noon - 5 p.m. Minimum time: 30 minutes. Admission free.

POLSON

Location: U.S. 93 on south shore of Flathead Lake in western Montana
Population: 2,800
Information: Polson Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 677 (59860)
406-883-5969

Polson is located in a natural amphitheater at the south end of Flathead Lake. This charming lakeside community is the trading center for one of Montana's most fertile farming areas. The Cherry Festival and Montana Fiddlers' Championships are held here annually.

Attractions:

NATIONAL BISON RANGE
30 miles south of Polson, off U.S. 93
Refuge Manager, Moiese (59824)
406-644-2211

Established in 1908, this 20,000-acre national wildlife refuge is home to some 500 American bison, or buffalo. The range also maintains herds of elk, mule deer, whitetail deer, bighorn sheep and pronghorn antelope. In order to keep the herds in

balance with their food supply, a number of each species must be removed each year. Surplus animals are rounded up and removed in October. All are sold alive for exhibition, propagation or butchering. A 19-mile scenic trip beginning and ending at the Range headquarters gives visitors the best opportunity to view wildlife. Headquarters can be reached from the south via Montana 200 by turning off onto Hwy. 212, a good, oiled road, and driving north to the main entrance at Moiese. Headquarters can be reached from the north by leaving U.S. 93 at a point 5 miles south of Ronan. From this junction, follow Hwy. 212, a good, blacktop road, for a distance of 14 miles to the Range entrance. A visitor center with exhibits and picnic area are at the headquarters.

Open daily, May 15 - September 30, during daylight hours. Special tours for groups. Minimum time: 1½ hours. Admission free.

ST. IGNATIUS MISSION
Jesuit Mission, St. Ignatius (59865)
406-745-2768

The beautiful St. Ignatius Mission was built by Indian people and their missionaries in 1891 with local materials. The million bricks were made with local clay, the lumber was cut in the nearby foothills and the striking interior murals were designed and painted by Brother Joseph Carignano, the Mission cook. There are 58 murals in all, painted on the walls and ceiling. The original residence and chapel, built in 1854, are located next to the Mission Church. Inside a log cabin are exhibits of early artifacts, Indian arts and crafts and other historical items.

Open daily April - October, 8 a.m. - 9 p.m. Special tours for groups. Minimum time: 15 minutes. Admission free.

Guided Tours:

RETTA MARY
108 Main Street (59860)
406-883-5838

The Retta Mary is a 65-foot-long diesel-powered steel vessel that sails from commercial docks in Polson. Tours of Flathead Lake depart twice daily and last approximately two hours. Boat is available for charter tours. Comfortable passenger accommodations include upper, main and fore decks, with double restroom facilities. Admission charged.

Summer Theater:

PORT POLSON PLAYERS
Lighthouse Inn
Box 636 (59860)
406-543-4738 - winter
406-883-5405 - summer

This professional acting company presents modern comedies in the round. The Players perform in a dinner theater with bar service on the south shore of Flathead Lake. Hits from past seasons include "California Suite," "Same Time Next Year" and "Amorous Flea."

July 1 - Labor Day, Wednesday - Saturday, dinner starts at 6:30 p.m., curtain time is 8 p.m. Admission charged.

RED LODGE

Location:	U.S. 212, between Billings and Yellowstone National Park
Population:	1,900
Information:	Red Lodge Chamber of Commerce Box 998 (59068) 406-446-1718

Red Lodge is a resort and ranching community with a colorful coal-mining past. At one time, "Liver Eatin" Jeremiah Johnson was a sheriff in Red Lodge. This charming alpine town is nestled in the foothills of the magnificent Beartooth Mountains. Due to the proximity of Yellowstone National Park and Red Lodge Mountain ski area, tourism plays a key role in the economy. Red Lodge holds a nine-day Festival of Nations every August in honor of the many nationalities that settled here as miners. The community celebrates the 4th of July every year with its popular Home of Champions Rodeo.

Attractions:

BEARTOOTH HIGHWAY
U.S. 212 between Red Lodge and Yellowstone National Park

It takes about 3 hours, by motorcoach, to travel the Beartooth Highway with some of the world's most breathtaking and magnificent mountin scenery at every turn. The Beartooth has been described as the most beautiful drive in America by CBS news correspondent Charles Kuralt. The highway crosses Beartooth Pass at an elevation of 10,940 feet. The road is open to traffic approximately May 15 - October 15, but is closed during the winter months.

SHELBY

Location:	I-15, at junction with U.S. 2, 35 miles south of Canadian border
Population:	3,100
Information:	Shelby Chamber of Commerce P.O. Box 488 (59474) 406-434-2031

Shelby came into existence in 1891 when the Great Northern railroad moved westward, and quickly became a "cowboy" town. In 1921, oil was discovered in the fields north toward the Canadian border. Shelby was the site of the World Heavyweight championship fight between Dempsey and Gibbons, on July 4, 1923.

Industrial Tours:

GTA ELEVATOR
Box 849 (59474)
406-434-2141

Grain storage and processing. Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tour lasts 30 minutes.

SIDNEY

Location:	Junction of Montana 16 and 200, 8 miles from North Dakota State Line
Population:	5,700
Information:	Sidney Chamber of Commerce 606 S. Central (59270) 406-482-1916

This eastern Montana town is the center of a wheat and sugar beet producing area and a growing energy industry.

Attractions:

J. K. RALSTON MUSEUM AND ART CENTER
221 Fifth Street S.W.
P.O. Box 50 (59270)
406-482-3500

The museum contains artifacts of pre-1930 vintage, which pertain to local history. Several rooms are arranged as typical businesses of the era. There is a saloon, general store, bank and dentist's office. The gallery accents the original Ralston paintings of the West. Also housed in this facility is the Willo Ralston Memorial Library for Historical Research.

Wednesday - Friday, Sunday, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m., all year. Special tours for groups. Minimum time: 45 minutes. Admission free.

Industrial Tours:

NORTHERN PLAINS SOIL AND WATER RESEARCH CENTER
North of Sidney
P.O. Box 1109 (59270)
406-482-2020

One-hour tours April - September, 7:30 a.m. - Noon and 1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. October - March, 8 a.m. - Noon and 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Closed Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Minimum of 3 persons and maximum of 20 persons per tour. One week advance notice required.

THREE FORKS

Location: Southwestern Montana at junction of I-90 and U.S. 287
Population: 1,200
Information: Three Forks Chamber of Commerce
Box 37 (59752)
406-285-3291

Discovered by Lewis and Clark in 1805, Three Forks is located at the historically significant site where the Madison, Jefferson and Gallatin rivers converge to form the Missouri. Several fur trading posts established here failed because of Indian hostilities. This fertile valley had long been the hunting grounds for several Indian tribes. Agriculture and tourism are the main industries here.

Attractions:

LEWIS AND CLARK CAVERNS STATE PARK
17 miles west of Three Forks - off U.S. 10
P.O. Box 1024 (59752)
406-287-3541 or 406-586-5419

Montana's first and best-known state park features one of the largest limestone caverns in the Northwest. Filled with an endless variety of beautiful, colored formations, these spectacular caverns are electrically lighted and safe to visit. Guided tours take about two hours, including time for a leisurely walk along the paved trail leading from the visitor center to the entrance. The entrance trail is ¾ mile long with a 300-foot rise. Visitors are also required to walk another ¾ mile inside the caverns, including 500 stairs down and 100 stairs up, plus ½ mile back to the visitor center. Many places inside the caverns require low stooping.

The PARADISE TOUR provides an easier option for senior citizens. This tour includes a walk out the exit trail (½ mile) and enters the Caverns through the exit, visiting the last, most beautiful and largest room in the Caverns. The tour covers level ground, with a few stairs in the Paradise Room. Total round trip of 1 mile takes approximately 1½ hours.

Open daily May 1 - June 14, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. June 15 - Labor Day 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. Labor Day - September 30, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Admission charged. Special rates for groups of at least 15 making reservations two weeks in advance.

MISSOURI HEADWATERS STATE PARK
Off I-90 near Three Forks
c/o Fish, Wildlife and Parks Department
Parks Division, Helena (59620)
406-449-3750

The Lewis and Clark Expedition came upon this junction of rivers on July 27, 1805, and named the three forks of the Missouri River. They named the eastern fork for Albert Gallatin, Secretary of the Treasury; the middle fork for James Madison, Secretary of State, and the western fork for Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States. The Headwaters park has historical exhibits, interpretive signs, scenic view points, picnic areas and hiking trails.

Open all year, daylight hours. Minimum time: 45 minutes. Admission free.

WEST YELLOWSTONE

Location: West entrance of Yellowstone National Park
Population: 750
Information: West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 458 (59758)
406-646-7528

This tourist town sits right at the West Entrance to Yellowstone National Park and is surrounded by excellent summer and winter recreation spots.

Attractions:

MADISON CANYON EARTHQUAKE AREA
U.S. 287, 20 miles west of U.S. 191
c/o Gallatin National Forest
Federal Bldg., 32 E. Babcock, Bozeman (59715)
406-587-5271, ext. 4233

On the night of August 17, 1959, an earthquake measuring 7.1 on the Richter Scale ripped through this area. Twenty-eight people lost their lives as the result of a landslide. One-half of a 7,600-foot mountain slid into the canyon below, damming the Madison River and creating Quake Lake. The Visitor Center, built on top of the slide, has on display photos of the area just after the earthquake, and a seismograph. There are also regularly scheduled talks about the earthquake.

Open daily, Memorial Day - Labor Day, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Minimum time: 30 minutes. Admission free.

MUSEUM OF THE YELLOWSTONE
124 Yellowstone Avenue
Box 411 (59758)
406-646-7814

The Union Pacific Depot, built between 1907 and 1909, now houses the Museum of the Yellowstone. Collections in the museum include rare, vintage portrait photographs of great Indian chiefs, rare Indian artifacts, such as clothing and weapons, authentic sabres, handguns and rifles used by the U.S. Cavalry; mountain man essentials like beaver traps and the Hawken rifle, and wildlife dioramas. Adventure and documentary films of the Old West, Yellowstone Park, wildlife and Indian history are shown in the theater. A bookstore in the museum contains hundreds of books on Western Americana and natural history.

Open daily, Memorial Day - October 1, 9 a.m. - 10 p.m. Special tours for groups. Minimum time: One hour. Admission charged.

Summer Theater:

PLAYMILL THEATRE
29 Madison Avenue (59758)
406-646-7757

College drama students present a variety of classic musicals, comedies and melodramas followed by a variety revue. Past performances include "Oklahoma" and "Paint Your Wagon." Shows at 8 p.m., Monday - Saturday, Memorial Day - Labor Day. Admission Charged.

WHITEFISH

Location: U.S. 93, 20 miles west of Glacier National Park
Population: 3,700
Information: Whitefish Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 1309 (59937)
406-862-3501

Nestled in the majestic Rocky Mountains on the shore of Whitefish Lake, this small, friendly Montana town offers the best in summer and winter recreation. An 18-hole golf course, bordering the lake, is beautiful and challenging, while the nearby Big Mountain Ski Resort is a skier's paradise. The whole town gets into the spirit during the Whitefish Winter Carnival, celebrated each February.

WISDOM

Location: Southwest corner of Montana on Montana 43
Population: 154
Information: Beaverhead National Forest
Wisdom Ranger Station (59761)
406-689-2331

The town of Wisdom was named for the river that flows through it. The three tributaries of the Jefferson River were named by Lewis and Clark in 1805 for what they considered to be President Thomas Jefferson's three most important virtures - philosophy, philanthropy and wisdom. These names proved too much for later settlers and were changed. The Wisdom became the Big Hole, the Philanthropy became the Ruby and the Philosophy became the Beaverhead.

Attractions:

BIG HOLE BATTLEFIELD
12 miles West on Montana 43
Box 237 (59761)
406-689-2530

Shortly before dawn on August 9, 1877, about 800 Nez Perce Indians, including 125 warriors, were suddenly awakened by gunfire as they slept in their tipi encampment along the Big Hole River. Colonel John Gibbon, with a force of 182 men, had succeeded in sneaking up on and attacking the unwary Nez Perce, who for two months had been attempting to evade pursuing U.S. Army forces. Stunned as they were, the warriors rallied and quickly took up sniper positions. The Army left itself exposed to fire from the side and rear. Colonel Gibbon was forced to order a retreat by 8 a.m. His men waded back across the river, and due to the Indians capturing the Army's howitzer, they were beseiged for nearly 36 hours, without food and water or the means to care for their wounded. Chief Joseph gathered his people together and hurriedly led them southward. The Nez Perce had successfully evaded the Army again, but this time the encounter had broken their spirit. They realized they would be pursued no matter where they went in the American West.

Visitor center includes exhibits from the Nez Perce war period. Trails in the area allow for a better view of the battlefield.

Open daily, Memorial Day - Labor Day, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. the rest of the year. Minimum time: One hour. Admission free.

WOLF POINT

Location: Northeastern Montana at Junction of U.S. 2 and Montana 13
Population: 3,100
Information: Wolf Point Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 237 (59201)
406-653-2012

During the colorful and romantic age of the grand Missouri River steamboats, Wolf Point was a refueling stop for the big wood burners. In 1885, the Great Northern Railroad pushed into Montana and the river boats were gone forever. Wolf Point's economy today is primarily agricultural, with large wheat farms and cattle ranches dotting the plains landscape. Montana's oldest rodeo, the Wild Horse Stampede, is held in Wolf Point every July.

SHOPPING AREAS

Listed below are the centralized shopping areas in Montana's larger cities. Each city that has a covered shopping mall also provides good downtown shopping.

BILLINGS
Rimrock Mall
300 South 24th Street West
406-656-3205

100 Stores

Restaurants: Cattle Company
Papa John's
Coffee Tree

Open: Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Saturday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday, Noon - 5 p.m.

BOZEMAN
Main Mall
2825 West Main
406-586-4565

52 + stores

Restaurants: Livery Stable
Lazy S Hickory House
Miguel's
The Gnome's Gnest

Open: Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Saturday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday, Noon - 5 p.m.

GREAT FALLS
Holiday Village Shopping Mall
1200 10th Avenue South
406-727-2088

100 stores

Restaurants: International King's Table
Robbie's
A & W
Oak Tree

Open: Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Saturday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday, Noon - 4 p.m.

HELENA
Downtown Pedestrian Mall
Last Chance Gulch
406-443-7094

95 stores

Restaurants: Overland Express
On Broadway
The Bakery
Yat Son Chinese Restaurant
Rose's Cantina
The Windbag Saloon

This is not a covered shopping mall, but this downtown area, located on Helena's historic Last Chance Gulch, is headquarters for shopping, dining, entertainment and culture. Most of the stores located here are locally-owned and one-of-a-kind.

MISSOULA
Southgate Mall
Brooks Avenue (Hwy. 93)
406-721-5140

95 Stores

Restaurants: International King's Table
JB's Big Boy Family Restaurant

Open: Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Saturday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday, Noon - 5 p.m.

MAJOR EVENTS

JANUARY

PRCA MONTANA CIRCUIT FINALS RODEO
GREAT FALLS — EARLY JANUARY
P.O. Box 1524
Great Falls, MT 59403
406-452-6401

Top 10 Montana contestants in bareback riding, saddle bronc riding, bull riding, steer wrestling, calf roping, team roping and barrel racing compete for top placing in the Montana circuit of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association. Admission charged.

MONTANA WINTER FAIR
BOZEMAN — LATE JANUARY-EARLY FEBRUARY
Bozeman Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box B
Bozeman, MT 59715
406-586-5421

Week-long livestock show featuring several breeds of cattle, swine, sheep and horses, with special contests and events. Complemented by an extensive household and applied arts division with more than 100 commercial exhibitors. No gate charge but admission is charged to some events in show arena.

FEBRUARY

WHITEFISH WINTER CARNIVAL
WHITEFISH — FIRST WEEKEND IN FEBRUARY
Whitefish Chamber of Commerce
Box 1309
Whitefish, MT 59937
406-862-3501

Three-day celebration of winter featuring royalty, torchlight skiing and fireworks at nearby Big Mountain ski resort, parade and winter games. No general admission but there is a charge for various banquets, buffets, luncheons and breakfasts.

MARCH

C.M. RUSSELL ART AUCTION
GREAT FALLS — LATE MARCH
Great Falls Advertising Federation
P.O. Box 619
Great Falls, MT 59403
406-761-6453

Three-day extravaganza of original western art featuring the work of the nation's finest living and deceased artists. Event features two auctions, two quick-draw auctions, seminars, receptions, chuck wagon brunch and more than 90 exhibitors' suites. Admission charged.

MAY

CHERRY FESTIVAL
EAST SHORE, FLATHEAD LAKE — EARLY MAY
Polson Chamber of Commerce
Box 677
Polson, MT 59860
406-883-5969

Two-day celebration of the beginning of the cherry-growing season on beautiful Flathead Lake. Celebration coincides with appearance of cherry blossoms. No admission.

Cherry blossoms on Flathead Lake

BUCKING HORSE SALE
MILES CITY — MID- TO LATE MAY
Miles City Area Chamber of Commerce
Box 730
Miles City, MT 59301
406-232-2890

Auction of rodeo stock for the Northwest's upcoming rodeo season. Rodeo, wild horse races and pari-mutuel betting. Three days. Admission charged.

JUNE

BIG SKY LOGGING CHAMPIONSHIPS
KALISPELL — FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND
Howard Hurst
340 W. Wyoming
Kalispell, MT 59901
406-755-6177

A tribute to the Flathead Valley's timber industry, this is the third largest professional logging competition in the world. Logging skills contests, parade, exhibits. Admission charged.

COLLEGE NATIONAL FINALS RODEO
BOZEMAN — MID-JUNE
Bozeman Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box B
Bozeman, MT 59715
406-586-5421

Five performances of the nation's top collegiate cowboys and cowgirls competing for national titles in all rodeo events. Each performance includes competition in bullriding, bareback bronc, saddle bronc, team roping, steer wrestling, calf roping, barrel racing and goat tying as well as several special events. Admission charged.

GREATER BILLINGS WEEK
BILLINGS — 3rd WEEK IN JUNE
Lynda Benjamin
Billings Convention & Visitors Bureau
306 N. Broadway
Billings, MT 59101
406-252-8855

Nine-day celebration of Billings' western heritage and the arts. Features Western Days Parade, Midland Empire All-Breeds Horse Show, street dances, barbecues, art auctions and exhibits. Admission charged.

JULY

LIBBY LOGGER DAYS
LIBBY — JULY
Libby Chamber of Commerce
Box 704
Libby, MT 59923
406-293-3832

Parade, carnival, logging skills contests, river raft race. Admission charged.

LIVINGSTON ROUNDUP RODEO
LIVINGSTON— JULY 4th WEEKEND
Livingston Chamber of Commerce
Box 660
Livingston, MT 59047
406-222-0850

Three nights of rodeo with a parade July 2, Livingston's famous "Indian hold-ups" and fireworks. PRCA rodeo draws 400-450 cowboys and cowgirls competing for $35,000 purse. Admission charged.

HOME OF CHAMPIONS RODEO
RED LODGE — JULY 4th WEEKEND
Bob Tirrell
Box 1000
Red Lodge, MT 59068
406-446-1600

Billed as one of the great rodeos in America by National Geographic, the Home of Champions draws over 400 of the country's top cowboys and cowgirls who compete for a purse of $30,000. PRCA-sponsored. Three days. Admission charged.

WILD HORSE STAMPEDE
WOLF POINT — EARLY JULY
Wolf Point Chamber of Commerce
Box 237
Wolf Point, MT 59201
406-653-2012

Three-day PRCA rodeo with a wild horse race as the special event of the rodeo. This rodeo, which dates back to 1897, is considered the "grandaddy" of all Montana rodeos. Admission charged.

MONTANA STATE FIDDLERS CHAMPIONSHIPS
POLSON — 4TH WEEKEND IN JULY
Polson Chamber of Commerce
Box 677
Polson, MT 59860
406-883-5969

Two-day, statewide contest to determine the top old-time fiddlers in various age categories. Admission charged.

LAST CHANCE STAMPEDE & FAIR
HELENA — END OF JULY
H. F. White
P.O. Box 4237
Helena, MT 59604
406-442-1098

Fair and PRCA rodeo with parade, demolition derby and livestock, domestic, arts and crafts exhibits. Rodeo draws 350 professional cowboys and cowgirls who compete for a $30,000 purse.

A rodeo can be found nearly every weekend in Montana during the summer.

STATE FAIR
GREAT FALLS — STARTS LAST SATURDAY OF JULY
Bill Chiesa
P.O. Box 1524
Great Falls, MT 59403
406-452-6401

Eight-day fair and PRCA rodeo with professional entertainment, special events and livestock, domestic, arts & crafts exhibits. Three nights of rodeo drawing 400 professional cowboys and cowgirls competing for a $30,000 purse. Admission charged.

AUGUST

BUTTE ETHNIC FESTIVAL
BUTTE — EARLY AUGUST
Butte-Silver Bow Chamber of Commerce
2950 Harrison
Butte, MT 59701
406-494-5595

An all-day event featuring ethnic foods served by families of various nationalities in colorful booths. Entertainment throughout the day. Admission charged.

SWEET PEA FESTIVAL
BOZEMAN — EARLY AUGUST
Kathryn Helzer
4432 Jackson Creek Road
Bozeman, MT 59715
406-587-5686

Four-day festival of arts consisting of a parade, flower show, children's art activities, arts and crafts sales, juried and open art shows, Shakespeare-in-the-Park, dance workshops and music during the day as well as evening concerts. Admission charged.

FESTIVAL OF NATIONS
RED LODGE — STARTS FIRST SATURDAY IN AUGUST
Bob Moran
Box 1089
Red Lodge, MT 59068
406-446-1905

Nine-day celebration of the various nationalities that settled this early mining town. A different nationality is honored each day with its own cooking, customs, arts and crafts displays and music. No admission charged.

Festival of Nations, Red Lodge

YELLOWSTONE EXHIBITION & FALL RACE MEET
BILLINGS — MID-AUGUST
Lynda Benjamin
Billings Convention & Visitors Bureau
306 N. Broadway
Billings, MT 59101
406-252-8855

Eight days of professional enertainment, night shows, carnival, exhibits, professional rodeo and horse racing. Thoroughbred horse racing and pari-mutuel betting continues on Wednesdays, Thursdays and weekends through mid-October. Admission charged.

CROW FAIR
CROW AGENCY — THIRD WEEKEND IN AUGUST
Lynda Benjamin
Billings Convention & Visitors Bureau
306 N. Broadway
Billings, MT 59101
406-252-8855

Eight-day Northern Plains Indian celebration featuring parades, hand games, food and craft displays and nightly rodeo. Admission charged for rodeo.

WESTERN RENDEZVOUS OF ART
HELENA — LATE AUGUST
Dick Duffy
P.O. Box 1231
Helena, MT 59624
406-442-3820

High-quality exhibit and sale of the work of a select group of western artists, plus reception, brunches and banquet. Three days. Admission charged.

KALISPELL ART SHOW AND AUCTION
KALISPELL — LATE AUGUST/EARLY SEPTEMBER
P.O. Box 1033
Kalispell, MT 59901
406-755-1422

Three-day show and auction of juried art by distinguished western artists, many of whom live in Montana. In addition to the art that is sold at the auction, many more works are displayed and sold in exhibitors' suites. Admission charged.

SEPTEMBER

OSCAR'S DREAMLAND YEARLY SHOW
BILLINGS — THIRD WEEKEND IN SEPTEMBER
Lynda Benjamin
Billings Convention & Visitors Bureau
306 N. Broadway
Billings, MT 59101
406-252-8855

Threshing bee and demonstrations of old-time farming techniques featuring world's largest private collection of farm artifacts, plus parade and meals from cook shack. Admission charged.

THRESHING BEE AND ANTIQUE SHOW
CULBERTSON — FOURTH WEEKEND IN SEPTEMBER
Sterling McKinney
Box 203
Culbertson, MT 59218
406-787-5318

Two-day farm celebration and antique show featuring contests, music jamboree, antique exhibit and largest display of old-time tractors and farm equipment in the Northwest. Admission charged.

Threshing Bee, Culbertson

OCTOBER

ELECTRUM
HELENA — EARLY OCTOBER
P.O. Box 1231
Helena, MT 59624
406-442-6400

A fall celebration of the arts, featuring music, talent, fine arts, crafts and drama. Juried arts, crafts, photography, marketplace, concert. Admission charged for concert only.

NORTHERN INTERNATIONAL LIVESTOCK
EXPOSITION AND RODEO
BILLINGS — MID-OCTOBER
P.O. Box 1981
Billings, MT 59103
406-259-5595

Week-long livestock show featuring breeding cattle show and sale, feeder cattle show and sale, swine, sheep and horse shows, trade show and PRCA rodeo. Admission charged.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Rest. = Restaurant, on property or within walking distance
R.S. = Room Service
Lnge. = Lounge, on property
Ent. = Entertainment, Live entertainment
S.P. = Swimming Pool
A/C = Air conditioning in rooms
Hndcp. = Handicapped
Comp. = Complimentary room for escort
Pkgs. = Packages
*** $ = Under $30**
$$ = $30 - $40
$$$ = Over $40
***Rates are for 1983, based on double occupancy**

City	Name/Address/Phone	Rooms	Rest.	R.S.	Lnge.	Ent.	S.P.	A/C	Hndcp.	Comp.	Pkgs.	Rate	Comments
Anaconda 59711	Fairmont Hot Springs Resort I-90 22 E. of Butte 406-797-3241 800-332-3272 (in MT)	175	2	*	*		4	*		*		$$	Tennis courts, golf course, game room, meeting rooms, skiing and horses nearby.
Bigfork 59911	Bigfork Timbers Motel Highway 35 P.O. Box 757 406-837-6200	28					*	*		*	*	$$	Jacuzzi, sauna, near Flathead Lake.
Big Sky 59716	Huntley Lodge Big Sky of Montana Resort P.O. Box 1 406-995-4211 800-548-4486 (except MT)	204	2	*	*	*	*		*	*	*	$$$	Jacuzzi, saunas, golf course, tennis courts, horseback riding, chairlift ride, meeting rooms. Also 300 condominium units. 45 miles from Yellowstone National Park. Skiing in winter.
Billings 59101	Best Western Northern Hotel Broadway at 1st Ave. No. P.O. Box 1296 406-245-5121 800-528-1231	212	2	*	2	*		*		*	*	$$	Downtown location, men's and women's boutiques, meeting rooms.
	Best Western Ponderosa Inn 2511 1st Ave. No. P.O. Box 1791 406-259-5511 800-528-1234	133	*		*	*	2	*	*	*		$$$	Saunas, downtown location, meeting rooms. Free in-room coffee.
	Billings Sheraton Hotel 27 N. 27th Street 406-252-7400 800-325-3535	302	3	*	3	*	*	*	*	*	*	$$$	Complimentary reception upon arrival and complimentary continental breakfast upon departure. Meeting rooms, downtown location.
	Holiday Inn East Main and Lake Elmo Highway 10 East 406-245-6611 800-238-8000 Telex - BILEA	104	*	*	*	*	*	*		*		$$	Located close to METRA sports arena, meeting rooms.
	Holiday Inn West I-90 and Mullowney Lane 5500 Midland Road 406-248-7701 800-238-8000	228	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		$$	Holidome Fun Center decorated in Polynesian theme. Meeting rooms, electronic games, putting green. Near interstate.
	Lewis and Clark Inn 1709 1st Ave. North 406-252-4691 800-541-9312	57	*				*	*		*		$	
	Regal 8 Inn I-90 and Midland Road 406-248-7551	119	*				*	*				$	Free coffee in lobby. Near interstate.
	Thrifty Scot Motel 1345 Mullowney Lane 406-252-2584 800-228-3222	78	*					*	*	*		$$	Free continental breakfast. Near interstate.
Bozeman 59715	Best Western City Center Motor Inn 507 West Main St. 406-587-3158 800-528-1234	66	2		*		*	*		*		$$	Jacuzzi, meeting rooms.
	Continental Motor Inn 1324 East Main St. 406-587-9231	61	*		*			*	*	*	*	$	Jacuzzi, meeting room. Near interstate.
	Holiday Inn 5 Baxter Lane 406-587-4561 800-238-8000 Telex - BZNMT	181	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		$$	Saunas, banquet facilities. Near interstate.
	Ramada Inn of Bozeman 1325 N. 7th Avenue 406-587-5261	100	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		$$	Meeting rooms. Near interstate.

City	Name/Address/Phone	Rooms	Rest.	R.S.	Lnge.	Ent.	S.P.	A/C	Hndcp.	Comp.	Pkgs.	Rate	Comments
	Super 8 Motel 800 Wheat Drive P.O. Box 1987 406-586-1521	60						*	*	*		$	Complimentary coffee, game room. Near interstate.
	Thrifty Scot Motel 1321 N. 7th Avenue 406-587-5251 800-228-3222	80	*					*	*	*		$	Free continental breakfast. Near interstate.
	Topper Motel 1235 N. 7th Avenue 406-587-3176	45	*	*	*		*	*		*		$	Near interstate.
Browning 59417	War Bonnet Lodge U.S. Highways 2 and 89 P.O. Box 638 406-338-5611	40	*	*	*	*		*		*		$	Located 15 miles from Glacier National Park.
Butte 59701	Best Western War Bonnet Inn 2100 Cornell Avenue 406-494-7800 800-528-1234	134	*	*	*	*	*	*		*	*	$$	Banquet facilities.
	Copper King Inn 4655 Harrison Avenue 406-494-6666 800-332-8600 (in MT) 800-548-6008 (except MT)	151	2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		$$$	Meeting rooms, near airport, jacuzzi, sauna.
	Mile Hi Motel 3499 Harrison Avenue 406-494-2250	45	*				*	*		*	*	$$	Complimentary coffee.
	Ramada Inn 2900 Harrison Avenue 406-494-3500 800-228-2828 Telex - 1441	136	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		$$	Complimentary room and meals for driver and escort when accompanied by group. Near interstate.
Charlo 59824	Allentown Motel & Restaurant Highway 93 Box 131, Rt. 1 406-644-2588	10	*		*					*		$	Restaurant seating capacity is 80, meeting room. Near National Bison Range.
Cooke City 59020	All Season's Inn Highway 212 P.O. Box 1130 406-838-2251	35	*		*					*		$	Restaurant seating capacity is 90. Located 4 miles from Yellowstone National Park.
Cut Bank 59427	Glacier Motor Hotel 15 First Ave. S.W. Box 2447 406-873-5555	60	*	*	*			*		*		$	Banquet facilities, downtown location.
Essex 59916	Izaak Walton Inn Box 675 Ask Operator for Essex #1	20	*		*					*		$	Unique old railroad hotel adjacent to Glacier National Park, peaceful location, sauna, meeting room.
Fort Peck 59223	Fort Peck Hotel South Missouri Avenue P.O. Box 168 406-526-3266	45	*	*	*			*	*	*	*	$	Free meeting rooms nearby.
Gardiner 59030	Wilson Motel 1 block E. of US 89 Box 223 406-848-7303	24	*							*		$$	At north entrance of Yellowstone National Park.
Glacier National Park	Glacier Park, Inc. East Glacier Park, 59434 406-226-5551 (May 15-Sept 15) 1735 E. Ft. Lowell Rd. Tucson, AZ 85719 602-795-0377 (Sept 15 - May 15)												Complimentary single room with 35 paying guests. Discounts offered for shoulder seasons.
	Glacier Park Lodge East Glacier Park	154	*		*	*	*			*		$$$	Scenic 9-hole golf course. Tentative operating dates for 1983: June 11 through Sept. 18
	Lake McDonald Lodge Northwest shore of Lake	101	*		*					*		$$$	Tentative operating dates for 1983: June 11 thru Sept. 18
	Many Glacier Hotel 12 Miles west of Baab	204	*		*	*				*		$$$	Tentative operating dates for 1983: June 11 thru Sept. 14. Lakeside location.
	Prince of Wales Hotel Waterton Lakes Nat'l Park	82	*		*	*				*		$$$	Tentative operating dates for 1983: June 11 thru Sept. 11. Overlooks Waterton Lake.
	Rising Sun Motor Inn and Cabins 7 miles E. of St. Mary Entrance	76	*							*		$$	Tentative operating dates for 1983: June 18 thru Sept. 5.

City	Name/Address/Phone	Rooms	Rest.	R.S.	Lnge.	Ent.	S.P.	A/C	Hndcp.	Comp.	Pkgs.	Rate	Comments
	Swiftcurrent Motor Inn 12 miles west of Baab	60	*							*		$$	Tentative operating dates for 1983: June 25 thru August 31. Near Swiftcurrent Lake.
Glasgow 59230	Buckboard Inn Highway 2 West Box 289 406-228-4375	57	*		*			*		*		$$	Complimentary continental breakfast, meeting room.
Glendive 59330	Best Western Holiday Lodge 221 N. Merrill Avenue Box 741 406-365-5655	105	*	*	*	*	*	*		*		$$	
Great Falls 59401	Best Western Heritage Inn 1700 Fox Farm Road 406-761-1900 800-528-1234	250	3	*	*	*	2	*		*	*	$$	Sauna, hot tubs, putting green, poolside cafe, meeting rooms. Near interstate.
	Best Western Ponderosa Inn 220 Central Avenue P.O. Box 1179 406-761-3410 800-528-1234	107	*		*	*	*	*		*	*	$$	Downtown location, meeting rooms, in-room coffee.
	Holiday Inn of Great Falls 1411 10th Ave. South 406-761-4600 800-238-8000	109	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		$$	Near large shopping mall.
	Mid-Town Motel 2nd Ave. North and 6th St. Box 1244 406-453-2411	39	*	*				*		*		$$	Free coffee in lobby, meeting rooms.
	O'Haire Motor Inn 17 7th Street South Box 1667 406-454-2141 800-332-9819	71	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	$$	Indoor heated garage, hospitality room, central location.
	Rainbow Hotel 20 3rd Street North P.O. Box 471 406-727-8200	91	*	*	*	*		*		*		$$	Sauna, whirlpool, meeting rooms, downtown location.
	Sheraton Great Falls 400 10th Ave. South 406-727-7200 800-325-3535	176	2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	$$	Reception upon arrival, group meal plans available.
	Triple Crown Motor Inn 621 Central Avenue 406-727-8300	50	*		*			*		*		$	Free coffee and donuts, close to shopping.
	Wright Nite Motels 2620 10th Ave. South 406-761-1300 800-238-2552	99	*		*		2	*	*	*	*	$$	In-room coffee.
Hamilton 59840	Best Western Hamilton 409 South 1st 406-363-2142 800-528-1234	37	*					*	*	*		$$	Complimentary morning coffee, meeting room, golf, hot springs and lake nearby.
Havre 59501	Le Havre Inn 629 West 1st Street 406-265-6711	104	*		*		*	*				$$	Meeting rooms.
Helena 59601	Best Western Colonial Inn 2301 Colonial Drive 406-443-2100 800-528-1234	121	2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		$$	Saunas, game room, poker parlor, shops in complex, meeting rooms. Near interstate.
	Coach House Downtown 910 N. Last Chance Gulch 406-442-6080	125	*		*		*	*		*	*	$$	Downtown location, poker/keno room.
	Coach House East 2101 11th Avenue 406-443-2300 800-228-5151	77	*		*		*	*		*	*	$$	Year-round spa. Near interstate.
	Park Plaza Hotel 22 N. Last Chance Gulch 406-443-2200 800-332-2290	71	*	*	*			*		*	*	$$	Located on downtown mall, meeting rooms.
	Thrifty Scot Motel 2001 Prospect Avenue 406-442-3280 800-228-3222	98	*					*	*	*		$$	Free continental breakfast. Near interstate.

City	Name/Address/Phone	Rooms	Rest.	R.S.	Lnge.	Ent.	S.P.	A/C	Hndcp.	Comp.	Pkgs.	Rate	Comments
Jackson 59736	Jackson Hot Springs Lodge Main Street Box 808 406-834-2141	16	*		*	*	*			*	*	$	Natural hot spring, 4 cabins with fireplaces, near Bannack and Big Hole Battlefield National Monument.
Kalispell 59901	Blue and White Motel 640 E. Idaho Street Box 249 406-755-4311	80	*				*	*		*	*	$	Free continental breakfast, jacuzzi, meeting room with bar. Near shopping center.
	Four Seasons Motor Inn 350 North Main 406-755-4311	101	*					*	*	*		$$	Close to downtown and shopping center, jacuzzi, meeting room.
	Outlaw Inn 1701 Highway 93 South 406-755-6100 800-528-1234	180	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	$$$	Meeting rooms, jacuzzi, racquetball court.
	Red Lion Motel 1330 Highway 2 West 406-755-6700 800-426-1982	64	*		*		*	*		*	*	$$$	
	Thrifty Scot Motel 1830 Highway 93 South 406-755-3798 800-228-3222	60	*				*		*	*	*	$$	Free continental breakfast, jacuzzi, sauna, game room.
Lewistown 59457	Yogo Inn 211 East Main Box 939 406-538-8721	132	*	*	*		*	*	*	*		$$	Game room, meeting rooms, display of uncut Yogo sapphires.
Libby 59923	Venture Motor Inn West Highway 2 P.O. Box AN 406-293-7711	71	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		$$$	Sauna, jacuzzi, meeting rooms, golf nearby.
Livingston 59047	Best Western Yellowstone Motor Inn 1515 West Park 406-222-6110	100	*	*	*	*	*	*		*	*	$$	Meeting rooms, tropical garden room. Near interstate.
	Guest House Motor Hotel 105 W. Park 406-222-1460	40	*		*			*		*	*	$	Downtown location, free continental breakfast.
	Y Go By Motel 1204 E. Park 406-222-1589	22	*				*	*	*	*	*	$	Jacuzzi, game room, meeting room, free coffee and tea.
Miles City 59301	Buckboard Inn 1006 So. Haynes Ave. P.O. Box 1765 406-232-3550	58	*		*		*	*	*		*	$$	Free coffee, hot tub. Near interstate.
	Custer's Inn 1209 So. Haynes Ave. P.O. Box 1235 406-232-5170	56	*				*	*	*		*	$$	Saunas. Near interstate
	Olive Motor Inn and Hotel 501 Main Street 406-232-2450	68	*	*	*	*		*	*	*		$	Downtown location, meeting rooms.
	Red Rock Village Motel Highway 10-12 East Box 788 406-232-4030	75	*		*	*	*	*		*		$	Bowling alley, beauty salon, meeting rooms.
	War Bonnet Inn 1055 South Haynes P.O. Box 1015 406-232-4560	54	*				*	*		*	*	$$	Free continental breakfast. Near interstate.
Missoula 59801	Best Western Southgate Inn 3530 Brooks Street 406-251-2250 800-528-1234	83	*	*			*	*		*	*	$$	Sauna, theatres adjacent, close to large shopping mall.
	Missoula Travelodge 420 W. Broadway 406-728-4500 800-255-3050 (U.S.) 800-268-3330 (Canada)	60	*					*	*	*	*	$$	
	Orange Street Inn 801 No. Orange Street 406-721-3610	82	*					*	*	*		$$	Free continental breakfast, meeting room. Near interstate.

City	Name/Address/Phone	Rooms	Rest.	R.S.	Lnge.	Ent.	S.P.	A/C	Hndcp.	Comp.	Pkgs.	Rate	Comments
	Red Lion Motel 700 West Broadway 406-728-3300 800-426-1982	76	*		*		*	*		*		$$$	
	Village Red Lion Motor Inn 100 Madison Street 406-728-3100 800-547-8010	173	2	*	*	*	*	*		*	*	$$$	Meeting rooms, downtown location, riverside guest rooms, saunas, beauty shop.
Red Lodge 59068	Rock Creek Mine Grizzly Condo 4 miles S. on Hwy 212 Route 2, Box 235 406-446-1878	38	*	*	*					*		$$	Tennis courts, free continental breakfast, meeting room.
Shelby 59474	O'Haire Manor Motel 204 2nd Street South 406-434-5555	40	*					*	*			$$	
Superior 59872	Big Sky Motel 103 4th Ave. E. Box 458 406-822-4831	24	*		*	*		*	*	*	*	$$	Meeting room. Near interstate.
Virginia City 59755	Bovey Restorations Virginia City & Nevada City Box 338 406-843-5377	60	*		*	*			*	*	*	$	Restored mining camps, Virginia City Players, museums, Alder Gulch "work" train.
West Yellowstone 59758	Ambassador Motor Inn 315 Yellowstone Ave. P.O. Box 459 406-646-7365 (collect with reservation)	52	*				*			*	*	$$	Bus tour information packet available on request.
	Big Western Pine Motel 234 Firehole Avenue P.O. Box 369 406-646-7622 (collect with reservation)	48	*				*			*	*	$$	Bus tour information packet available on request.
	Circle R Motel 321 Madison Avenue P.O. Box 364 406-646-7641	25	*								*	$$	Jacuzzi, meeting room.
	Stage Coach Inn and Motor Inn Madison and Dunraven Streets P.O. Box 160 406-646-7381 800-255-3050 (U.S.) 800-268-3330 (Canada)	55	2	*	2	*				*	*	$$	Spa room with sauna and hot tubs, meeting rooms, beauty shop.
	Three Bear Lodge 217 Yellowstone Avenue P.O. Box 519 406-646-7353 (collect with reservation)	42	*				*			*	*	$$	Meeting rooms, jacuzzi, bus tour information packet available on request.
	Traveler's Lodge 235 Yellowstone Ave. Box C 406-646-7773 800-238-2552	42	*				*			*	*	$$	Hot tub, sauna, large meeting room with full kitchen.
Whitefish 59937	Bay Point Estates (Condo units) 300 Bay Point Drive Box 35 406-862-2331	45					*			*	*	$$$	Jacuzzi, lakefront location, meeting rooms, golf course. Near Big Mountain ski area.
	Chalet Motel 6430 Hwy. 93 South P.O. Box 1749 406-862-5581	32	*				*	*	*	*		$$	Jacuzzi, sauna, meeting room, shuttle bus to Big Mountain ski area.
	The Remington 130 Central Avenue 406-862-6303	22	*		2	*				*	*	$	Sauna, casino, close to Amtrak station.
	Viking Lodge 1360 Wisconsin Avenue 406-862-3547	40	*	*	*	*	*	*		*	*	$$$	Lakeside location, meeting rooms, boat dock, volleyball, horseshoes.
Yellowstone National Park WY 82190	TWA Services, Inc. Yellowstone Park Division Group Tours Office Yellowstone Nat'l Park, WY 307-344-7901												Complimentary single room with 40 paying guests.
	Canyon Village Lodge and Cabins Center of Park	488	2		*					*	*	$$	100 luxury cabins, also. 1982 operating dates June 14 - Sept. 1

City	Name/Address/Phone	Rooms	Rest.	R.S.	Lnge.	Ent.	S.P.	A/C	Hndcp.	Comp.	Pkgs.	Rate	Comments
	Grant Village West shore of Lake	75	*						*	*	*	$$	Cafeteria only. 1982 operating dates: July 1 - Sept. 7
	Lake Lodge and Cabins North shore of Lake	100	*							*	*	$$$	Luxury cabins used for tours. Cafeteria only at Lodge. Dining room at Hotel. 1982 operating dates: June 8 - Sept. 8
	Lake Yellowstone Hotel North shore of Lake	89	*		*					*	*	$$	25 deluxe rooms, also. 1982 operating dates: May 21 - Sept. 28
	Old Faithful Inn 30 miles from west entrance	79	*		*					*	*	$$	100 deluxe rooms, also. 1982 operating dates: May 14 - Oct. 17
	Old Faithful Snow Lodge 30 miles from west entrance	80	*		*					*	*	$$	Accommodations include cabins with bath, rooms without bath and rooms with shared bath. 1981-82 operating dates: Dec. 18 - March 13
	Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel and Cabins 5 miles from north entrance	69	*		*					*	*	$$	73 Standard cabins, also. 1982 operating dates: May 28 - Sept. 19

CAMPGROUNDS

Montana has a number of private campgrounds that can accommodate camping tours. For detailed information about campground facilities, contact the Montana Travel Promotion Bureau's group tour coordinator and request a current campground listing or contact:

Montana Campground Owners Association
c/o Judy Hooper
KOA of Havre
Rt. 36 Box KOA
Havre, MT 59501
406-265-5012

Campgrounds in Glacier National Park are managed on a first-come, first-served basis. In Yellowstone National Park, the Park Service maintains two campgrounds for groups. The maximum group size is 40 and the fee is $1 per person per night. It's a good idea to reserve space in these campgrounds as much as a year in advance. To reserve space in these campgrounds, contact:

Visitor Services
National Park Service
P.O. Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190
307-344-7381, ext. 2283

Boardwalk at Nevada City

ESCORT NOTES

MONTANA: AN INTRODUCTION

Montana is a vast and a varied state. Its Big Sky covers a land area of more than 93 million acres, making Montana the fourth largest state in the nation. In area, it can accommodate Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania and New York, and still have room for the District of Columbia. Yet, Montana's population is less than 800,000, making it the sixth least populated state. There are fewer people living in the entire state of Montana than there are in the city of Phoenix, and about half as many as there are in Houston. In Montana, there is room to breathe. And nowhere is the air fresher.

Bordered on the north by the Canadian provinces of Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia, Montana is an important link between western Canada and the western United States. Montanans and Canadians are good friends and neighbors. Traffic moves freely over the border that separates them. Montana and Alberta share an international park called Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park. The Montana portion is Glacier National Park, revered by many as the "Crown of the Continent." Idaho borders on the west edge of Montana and the Dakotas on the east. Directly south is Wyoming and Yellowstone National Park, the oldest and largest of America's national parks. Three of the five entrances to Yellowstone are in Montana.

The Rocky Mountains cut magnificently through western Montana, defining the shape and character of the state and, incidentally, giving Montana its name. Montana means "mountains" or "mountainous" in both Spanish and Latin. The Rockies, rooted far to the south where they loom more often as individual peaks and ranges, are going strong by the time they trumpet through Montana to fling themselves north to Canada. Montana's vast landscape lets you see hundreds of miles of them at once in one triumphant thrust of mountains.

These mountains and their timbered, snow-fed valleys comprise the western third of the state. The area west of the Continental Divide is a kindred spirit of the Pacific Northwest, resembling it in both climate and terrain. Plenty of moisture and a moderating climate makes this the garden spot of the state. Here, tall stands of fir, pine, spruce and larch are managed and harvested to produce wood products used across the nation.

Further east, the ranges that comprise the Rockies give way to the isolated ranges of central Montana and, eventually, to the rolling plains and badlands of eastern Montana. The climate is much drier on this side of the Divide. The dominant economic forces are grain, livestock, coal, oil and natural gas.

Hardrock minerals are also a major component of the Montana economy. While agriculture has always been the number one income producer in Montana, mining runs a close second as the race to develop this nation's energy resources gains momentum. Wood products and tourism are the other two major income producers.

Generally, Montana's climate is milder than perceived because of its location in the interior of the continent. Average annual rainfall is 15 inches, varying from 9.69 to more than 100 inches. Average daytime temperatures vary from 28 degrees Fahrenheit in January to 84.5 degrees in July.

Montana is a headwaters state for two major river systems — the Columbia and the Missouri. It's the Continental Divide that determines whether Montana's water will find its way to the Pacific, via the Columbia River system, or to the Gulf of Mexico by way of the Missouri. There's a one-of-a-kind landmark in Glacier Park called Triple Divide Peak that splits its snowmelt three ways, as its name implies. Besides sending water east and west, Triple Divide steers a portion of its annual runoff north to Hudson's Bay and the Arctic Ocean.

Not all of the 29.6 million acre-feet of water produced annually in Montana finds its way to the sea. Montana's diverse water resources — more than 9,000 rivers, streams, spring creeks, lakes and reservoirs — supports 81 species of fish. These waters sustain a recreational fishery worth millions of dollars, provide habitat for a number of bird and mammal species, supply water for agriculture, municipalities and industry, support a limited commercial fishery, generate hydroelectric power and attract thousands of visitors to the state each year.

DRAMATIC UPS AND DOWNS

Equally inviting is Montana's varied landscape. Mountains, canyons, river valleys, forests, plains, badlands and caverns. Lush forests that annually are drenched with up to 100 inches of rainfall; parched badlands that might receive 9 inches in a good year. Dramatic ups and downs that range from 1,820 feet on the Montana-Idaho border in northwest Montana to 12,799 feet at the top of Granite Peak in Montana's magnificent Beartooth Range in the southcentral part of the state.

The diversity of the Montana landscape was first recorded by Lewis and Clark and their Corps of Discovery, commissioned in 1803 by President Thomas Jefferson to explore the Louisiana Purchase and find a northwest passage to the Pacific. This intrepid band, who completed the most famous expedition in U.S. history, followed the Missouri across what would be named Montana, noting the breadth and scope of the land and naming landmarks that still catch the eye: the Great Falls of the Missouri, the Gates of the Mountains, Three Forks, Pompeys Pillar. These place names stand out in the Lewis and Clark journals as significant landmarks along the famous route, and visitors today can still stand where Lewis and Clark once stood on land that has changed little since it was first mapped, nearly 180 years ago.

Montana land was Indian land for 10,000 years before it felt the footfall of a white man. It belonged to the Blackfeet, the Cheyenne, the Assiniboine, Gros Ventre, Flathead and Absarokas. Montana is still Indian land, with seven vast reservations covering millions of acres throughout the state. The most famous confrontation between white man and red man comes to life at the Custer Battlefield National Monument on the Crow Indian Reservation in southeastern Montana. It was here in 1876 that a Civil War general named George Armstrong Custer and his troops lost their lives to an underestimated force of Sioux and Cheyenne warriors.

Montana is a resource-rich state that has rewarded many fortune seekers. Furs, gold, silver, copper, timber, cattle, oil and coal. All have had their heyday in Montana and some are still booming. The people who responded to the lure of riches and settled this untamed land came in eager droves from Scandinavia, Germany, Poland, Yugoslavia, France, Italy, Spain, Ireland, England and a score of other countries. Their history can be traced in the ethnic strongholds of Butte, Anaconda, Red Lodge and the "Hi-Line" communities of Glasgow, Wolf Point, Scobey and Plentywood.

Montana achieved statehood on November 8, 1889 — less than 100 years ago. Its history is a young, accessible, "hands-on" history. Visitors can soak up Montana's version of the Old West on the boardwalk of Virginia City, at the gravesite of General Custer, on the main street of Helena's Last Chance Gulch or at any number of annual festivals and celebrations bearing names like the Wild Horse Stampede, the Northeast Montana Threshing Bee and Antique Show, and Vigilante Parade, the Western Rendezvous of Art and the Festival of Nations.

These places and events can be reached by a transportation network that includes 14,200 miles of modern, paved highways, north-south and east-west interstate systems, 15 airports with commercial air service, non-stop flights from Minneapolis, Denver, Chicago, Salt Lake City and Spokane to Montana's larger cities and daily AMTRAK service along Montana's northern east-west route called the "Hi-Line" which parallels U.S. 2.

Following are some of the things Montana is famous for and some for which the state is notorious.

MONTANA HISTORY 101

Montana's history — its human story — is relatively young. The story of the settlement of Montana begins about 10,000 years ago, when the first small bands of wandering hunters appeared along the eastern flanks of the Rockies. But long before the first person set foot in what is now Montana, this land was undergoing turbulent geologic change. The earth heaved and moaned. Ancient seas and lakes rose and fell.

The mountains of western Montana were formed about 60 million years ago by massive shifts of the earth and the upward surge of liquid rock and lava. One great mass of sedimentary rock slid as a single slab to form what is now Glacier National Park. A few of the mountain ranges are the result of volcanic activity. One of the major centers of volcanic activity was the Yellowstone Park area, where a series of violent eruptions built up the Yellowstone Plateau. Great swamps formed east of these mountains, as the seas retreated eastward, and were later buried to become thick beds of coal and oil fields. The geologic activity deep within the earth that created Montana's geograhically split personality still goes on today. Volcanoes have been active in the region during most of the past 100 million years, and frequent earthquakes show that some of the mountains and valleys are still moving.

Prehistoric fossils have been preserved and are on display in many areas of eastern Montana, including Fort Peck Dam, Jordan and Ekalaka. Some of the finest fossil skeletons unearthed have been dug from these prairie soils. Triceratops, Trachodon, Tyrannosaurus rex, dinosaur eggs, petrified turtles and fossilized leaves and fish are just some of the specimens on display.

It is generally agreed that the first inhabitants of this area migrated over a land bridge across the Bering Strait that connected Asian Siberia with Alaska. These Asiatic hunters followed large herds of big game animals across the continent.

About 4,000 to 5,000 years ago, the climate changed dramatically, the Northern Great Plans became hot and dry, the grasslands dried up and the plentiful herds of big game animals disappeared. Hunters turned to antelope and rabbits and augmented their catch with berries and roots.

As the climate grew wetter, about 1,000 to 2,000 years ago, bison herds returned to the Plains. About the same time, the bow and arrow appeared in North America. Besides hunting bison singly with this new

weapon, the hunters developed another technique called a buffalo drive or a buffalo jump, in which an entire herd was stampeded over a cliff.

Two accessible sites where Indian buffalo jumps can be seen are Ulm Pishkun, off I-15, southwest of Great Falls, and the Madison Buffalo Jump, off I-90, between Bozeman and Three Forks.

The bison herds provide an abundance of meat and attracted more and more bands into Montana. Indians from both west and east came to the Plains to begin a life that was dependent on the buffalo. Prior to 1800, according to one historian, "Montana was the eye of a cultural hurricane, where Indians migrating from all directions, bringing horses and guns with them, met to create new and unusual societies."

Within less than 100 years, these societies disappeared along with the buffalo. White railroad builders, hide hunters and sport hunters killed the buffalo in numbers than can only be described as slaughter. It is estimated that perhaps 13 million buffalo roamed the West before the hunt of the 1870s and '80s began. By 1883 there were fewer than 200 of the great animals in the entire West. Large numbers of Indians, in turn, died from malnutrition and starvation. Those who survived where confined to the seven Montana reservations that are now home to Assiniboine and Sioux, Blackfeet, Chippewa-Cree, Confederated Salish and Kootenai, Crow, Assiniboine and Gros Ventre and Northern Cheyenne.

THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION

Montana's first recorded history is preserved elegantly in the journals of Lewis and Clark. The journey of these two explorers, who led President Thomas Jefferson's "Corps of Discovery" through Montana in 1805-06, has emerged through time as the greatest expedition in U.S. history. The route they followed was the Missouri River, from St. Louis where it converges with the Mississippi, to its source in what is now Montana and what was then a vast, newly acquired tract called the Louisiana Purchase. From there, the two Army officers were commissioned by the President to discover a water passage to the Pacific — the long-imagined "Northwest Passage." That meant crossing the Continental Divide and following the Columbia River to the coast. Along the way, they were to explore, botanize, collect animal specimens, discover what they could of the Indian tribes along their route, map the route, and keep a record of their journey.

The expedition entered Montana April 26, 1805, at the mouth of the Yellowstone River (at the present Montana-North Dakota border) and traveled west along the Missouri. They portaged around the "Great Falls of the Missouri," just below the present City of Great Falls, continued following the Missouri to its headwaters near Bozeman, then undertook what must have been the most challenging and discouraging aspect of the journey — the search for a passage over the mountain ranges that comprise the Continental Divide. After leaving Montana and completing their journey to the coast, Lewis and Clark re-entered Montana in 1806, divided the party and explored both the Marias River country in northern Montana and the Yellowstone River valley in southcentral Montana on their way east.

Most of this historic trek can be followed today by modern highway. Eleven states, including Montana, have marked the entire route, from the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers to the Pacific Coast. In Montana, the Missouri River headwaters, the landmark that determined the course Lewis and Clark would follow over the Continental Divide, has been preserved in interpretive detail at the Missouri Headwaters State Park, off I-90, near Three Forks. Before they reached the headwaters, Lewis and Clark passed through the Missouri River canyon, north of Helena, and named the steep cliffs the Gates of the Rocky Mountains, now known as the Gates of the Mountains. The "Gates" are easily reached off I-15, north of Helena, and can be viewed daily during the summer months on regular, two-hour, scenic cruises. Perhaps the earliest graffiti was left by Captain Clark at what he named Pompeys Pillar, a distinctive rock formation along the Yellowstone River east of Billings. Clark climbed the rock and carved his name and the date — July 25, 1806. He named the formation after Pomp, the infant son of the expedition's Indian scout, Sacajawea. The landmark is 28 miles east of Billings, off I-94.

The journey undertaken by these two skilled pathfinders literally unlocked the West. In their footsteps came mountain men, fur traders, gold prospectors, land and cattle barons, cowboys, copper kings and countless other dreamers and fortune seekers.

The western fur trade produced the first generation of American heroes whose exploits live on in western folklore. Mountain men like Jedediah Smith, Kit Carson, John Colter and Jim Bridger earned larger-than-life reputations and a permanent place in American history. Their exploits, usually exaggerated in the retelling, captured the nation's imagination. There were encounters with grizzly bears, "savages" and perilous journeys through mountains, across deserts and other formidable territory. One of the best stories comes down to us from John Colter's winter odyssey through what is now the Jackson Hole-Grand Tetons-Yellowstone Park area. His description of the hot pots and geysers that gained national park status for Yellowstone earned him the reputation of a liar and earned the park a nickname that stuck — Colter's Hell.

Beaver pelts were big business in the early 1800s but faded toward the middle of the century, partially because trappers over-harvested the west's fur-bearing animals and partially because silk garments replaced furs in popularity.

When the boom in pelts died, the gold rush began. At Grasshopper Creek in 1862, the find was so rich it was said the miners could pull up sagebrush and shake a dollar's worth of dust from the roots.

A brawling frontier town and Montana's first territorial capital — Bannack — sprang up around this rich gold strike. Its ghostly remains can still be seen at Bannack State Park, south of Dillon off Montana Highway 41. For a little livelier look into Montana's gold rush days, visit the restored mining camps of Virginia City and Nevada City, east of Dillon on Montana Highway 287. The spirit of the Old West still lives in the Opera House, the Bale of Hay Saloon, the Nevada City Music Hall, Gilbert's Brewery, the restaurants, shops and overnight accommodations.

TOWNS GREW ON GOLD

Towns of the gold rush era grew on gold. Within six years, the town of Confederate Gulch jumped from a population of zero to 10,000. By the seventh year, the gold was gone and the population dropped to 64.

Boom and bust. The cycle has been repeated over and over again in Montana's history. After gold came silver and copper. Rich copper deposits in Butte lured some of the world's greatest capitalists to Montana in the 1860s and '70s. With names like Hearst, Rockefeller and Standard Oil backing them, three men — William Andrews Clark, Marcus Daly and F. Augustus Heinze — went to war to see who would rule Butte, which by 1885 had become the greatest mining camp in the West. The "War of the Copper Kings" went beyond Butte. Control of Butte meant control of Montana's economy and political system and both were abused in the battle for power. It was a rollicking and rough period of Montana's history and it had a pervasive impact on the state. Butte is still regarded as "the richest hill on earth" and the trappings of its heyday have been preserved at attractions like the Clark Mansion, the World Museum of Mining, the Butte Historic District and the Berkeley Open Pit Copper Mine.

While bonanza seekers were duking it out for precious metals fortunes in the western portion of the state, cattle and sheep were driven in waves to the open ranges and rich grasses of central and eastern Montana. In 10 years, the cattle population rose from a few thousand to more than a million. Overcrowding and the cruel winter of 1886-87 killed most of them, and another Montana boom went bust. The era of the stockman is on display year-round at the 216-acre Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site in Deer Lodge. This pioneer ranch was one of the first in the Northwest. Owned by Johnny Grant in the 1850s and later by Conrad Kohrs, it produced meat for the mining camps and was the early social center of the community. The home ranch, still intact, was eventually headquarters for more than a million acres.

In 1881, only 75 years after Lewis and Clark made the first organized expedition through this area on foot, Montana Territory was linked with the rest of the nation by rail. The first line through Montana, the Northern Pacific, reached from Lake Superior to the Pacific Coast. Within a few years, Jim Hill brought the Great Northern through. A hundred thousand immigrants used sledge hammers to pound down the parallel steel ribbons. The Great Northern advertised free government land in a region of "milk and honey" to lure settlers to its lines.

By the late 1880s, the people who settled Montana Territory were ready for statehood. The arrival of rails combined with the booming mining and livestock industries had kited Montana's population from 38,000 in 1880 to 132,000 in 1890. On October 1, 1889, the voters of Montana approved a state constitution, and on November 8, Montana was proclaimed the 41st state of the Union.

The combination of the rails and a worldwide industrial revolution brought the next great wave — the "sodbusters invasion" — to Montana after the turn of the century. Montana's homesteaders, a mix of Americans and western Europeans, built what remains the state's leading industry to this day. They broke millions of acres of fertile grassland and transformed the Northern Great Plans into a rich grainbelt.

Montana is booming again, this time with coal, oil and gas production. These are the rich fossil fuels that once appeared as prehistoric swamps. Millions of years have transformed these swamps into thick beds of coal and rich deposits of oil and gas. As the nation strives to become energy independent, Montana faces a bright future — the result, once again, of abundant natural resources.

The people who came to Montana to exploit these resources, to make their fortunes, to take a gamble, are the people who breathed life into the story of Montana. And they aren't so far removed. As a state, Montana has not yet celebrated its centennial. Not even 200 years have lapsed since Montana was first mapped by Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery. Montana's history is young and accessible. It won't be found on dry parchment under glass in a musty, dark museum. Rather, it can still be seen during the annual roundup at the National Bison Range, the Crow Indian Fair, the two-story outhouse at Nevada City, the Charles M. Russell Art Auction, the Custer Battlefield, a western melodrama staged by the Virginia City Players, any one of the rodeos that occur every weekend during the summer months or on any main street in Montana.

THE SEASONS OF MONTANA

An optimist once said their is really no such thing as bad weather, only different kinds of good weather. In Montana, we have them all...snowy, white winters; cool, wet springs; warm, dry summers; and magnificant lingering autumns. No matter which season you choose, Montana is at its peak.

If you're a skier, you won't find better conditions anywhere. Montana's dry, western climate combined with its brisk winter temperatures and high elevations, make unbeatable powder snow. In the spring, all that snow rushes down the mountains to feed the valleys below. The result is a dazzling splash of color painted in field after field of wildflowers that extend well beyond spring at the higher elevations. In the summer, life slows down a bit as Montanans relax and enjoy long, sunny days with warm, dry temperatures. Autumn is a favorite because the days are warm, the nights are cool and the air is unbelievably fresh.

The hallmark of Montana's weather system is its changeability. It is not uncommon to experience a 60-degree spread from one day to the next. Because of its

location in a chinook belt, central Montana's weather is the most changeable, on the average, of any area in the nation.

A chinook is a warm, dry, southwesterly wind that occurs on the downwind slope of any major mountain range. Mountain ranges don't get much more major than the Continental Divide, so chinooks in the northern Rockies are major weather events. Montana's chinook belt extends about 150 miles from the east slopes of the Rockies, making central Montana a highly changeable boundary layer between cold and warm air. When a good strong chinook replaces retreating arctic air, temperatures rise dramatically. Once, during a chinook, the temperature in Havre (in north central Montana) rose 26 degrees in 45 seconds. Montana is also on record as having the greatest temperature spread. The difference between our lowest recorded temperature—minus 70 degrees—and our highest—117 degrees—is 187 degrees.

MONTANA IS MILDER THAN PERCEIVED

Generally, Montana is milder than perceived because of its location in the interior of the continent. After hearing about record low temperatures from some of our more notorious recording stations, like West Yellowstone and Cut Bank, some nonresidents think of Montana as an icebox. Unlike many areas of the nation, however, where winter settles in for keeps, Montana's cold spells are frequently interrupted by chinook winds and mild periods.

The beauty of Montana's weather system is that whether it is hot or cold, Montana is dry and, therefore, neither oppressively hot nor oppressively cold. Average annual rainfall is 15 inches, varying from 9.69 to more than 100 inches. Average daytime temperatures vary from 28 degrees in January to 84.5 degrees in July.

Generally, here is what you can expect of Montana's weather on a season-by-season basis:

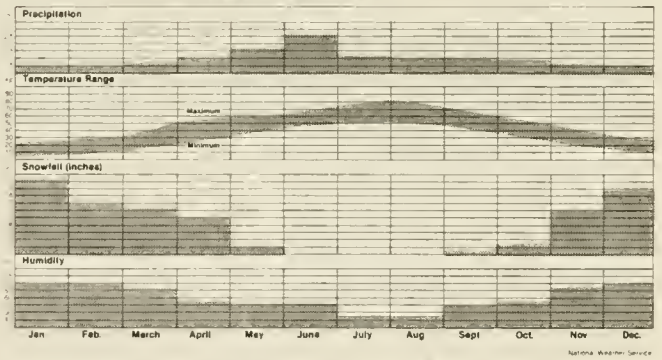
WINTER (December through early March) Cold spells do occur in December but usually don't last long because they are replaced by warm, chinook winds. In January and February, storms become more vigorous. Winter gets down to business. While it can turn cold and stay cold, the usual pattern alternates between cold and mild spells. Cold weather is more frequent over the eastern third of the state, while milder weather prevails to the west because of chinook winds. Winter in this northern climate lends itself to ideal skiing conditions because the dry powder that blankets the Rockies is generally not subject to freezing and thawing. And, while cold is not uncommon in the mountain valleys, ski slopes can extend into the mild air above, making Montana a skier's paradise.

SPRING (late March through June) This is Montana's breezy, rainy season. Montana can still get snow in March and April but by this time, the sun is getting far enough north that our days are becoming warm. In May and June, the winds die down, the rain picks up, the sun is benign and the earth comes back to life. Buds appear, birds return to their summer home and wildflowers transform the winter landscape into a burst of color. Spring in Montana is an artist gone berserk.

SUMMER (late June through August) Summer is generally hot over the plains and mild in the mountainous west. Late afternoon thunderstorms are typical over the entire state. In the higher elevations, hikers and backpackers enjoy mild days and cool nights. This is the best time of year for a family vacation in Montana. Schools are closed. Roads are dry and clear. The days are long and warm. And Montana's many attractions are waiting. Many communities stage festivals, shows, rodeos, parades and exhibits to celebrate our western culture at this time of the year. And Montana's famed rivers are running clear and beautiful.

AUTUMN (September through November) Montana frequently gets its first cool, wet hint of winter around Labor Day, but Montanans know it won't last. What follows is perhaps Montana's most enchanting season—a period of unseasonably warm weather that frequently extends into late November. It's Indian Summer, characterized by warm days, cool nights, fresh, crisp air and brilliant colors. Time to be outdoors. Time to hunt and fish. Time to wax skis, sharpen edges, chop wood and prepare for the next glorious cycle.

WEATHER GUIDE



WHAT TO WEAR

Because Montana's weather is so changeable, you should bring a variety of clothing to be comfortable. Montana is seldom consistently hot or consistently cold. Every season holds some surprises. Montanans like to dress in layers to they can peel clothes off until they are comfortable. It's a lot easier to subtract clothing than it is to add.

In the summer, shorts or light-weight slacks, sun dresses and short-sleeve shirts are the rule. If you plan to spend much time outdoors, it's always wise to bring a light jacket. In the fall and again in the spring, wardrobes run from shorts and tops to wool pants and flannel shirts. The weather is variable so the Boy Scout rule applies here: Be prepared.

The only way to beat wool in the winter is with layers of wool. You will find the best-dressed Montanans wearing wool socks, pants, shirts, jackets, mittens and caps. Lighter-weight clothing is never out of reach, however, because mild periods are expected.

INDUSTRY

Mountains and timbered valleys, fertile plains and breathtaking landscapes make Montana more than a pretty place. These abundant natural resources have fueled the state's economy since it was first settled. Starting with furs in the early 1800s, Montana's economy has boomed periodically with gold, silver, copper and, more recently, coal, oil and gas. Today, Montana's "big four" industries are agriculture, mining, tourism and wood products.

Agriculture is big business in Montana. The average farm or ranch is nearly 3,000 acres, often devoted to the production of a single crop. In 1980, agriculture contributed $1.5 billion to the state's economy, making it Montana's largest income producer. While cattle and wheat accounted for three-fourths of the total. Montana is a national leader in the production of several agricultural products — 6th among the 50 states in wheat production, 4th in barley, 8th in beef cattle and 9th in sheep. Sugar beets, hay, honey and oats also rank high.

As domestic energy development becomes an increasingly important national goal, minerals production is fast approaching agriculture as Montana's major income producer. In 1980, mining contributed $1.3 billion to the state, with fuel minerals — oil, coal and natural gas — accounting for more than three-fourths of the total. Montana is an oil-rich state with an important future. Current estimated reserves are more than 248 million barrels, with 28.5 million barrels produced during 1980. Widespread exploration is expected to uncover additional reserves.

Of the 14 major coal-producing states, Montana ranks first in coal resources and reserves. The Powder River Basin in Montana and Wyoming contains an estimated 70 percent of the nation's recoverable coal, and Montana alone has more than 75 billion tons of low-sulphur reserves within her borders. Coal represents 82 percent of America's fossil fuel reserves, and production and consumption of U.S. coal is estimated to reach 1.2 billion tons by 1985. Even though coal accounted for nearly a quarter of Montana's minerals income in 1980, less than one-half of one percent of the state's recoverable coal reserves has been mined.

Hardrock minerals also contribute substantially to the state's mining income. It was the lure of gold that brought the first miners to the state in the 1850s. Later in that century, rich copper deposits were discovered in Butte and this bawdy, western Montana town soon came to be known as "the richest hill on earth." In 1980 copper provided 7.5 percent of the state's minerals income; silver provided 3.9 percent.

Montana is still regarded as having one of the nation's highest potentials for metals mining, with substantial known deposits of copper, gold, silver, platinum, zinc, lead, iron, chrome, antimony, tungsten and molybdenum. The state's total non-fuel minerals production is valued at nearly $300 million annually.

Timber is another of the state's valuable resources. More than 1.2 billion board feet of lumber are produced annually here, ranking Montana 9th among the 50 states in total lumber production. About 30 percent of Montana manufacturers are involved in the lumber, wood products and associated industries, accounting for 34 percent of the state's manufacturing workforce. The majority of these industries are sawmills and stud mills, plywood and particleboard plants, pulp and paper mills and post and pole plants. Secondary wood products manufacturing plants produce log housing, modular construction components, mobile homes, wooden furniture, beekeeping supplies and other items.

Tourism, Montana's other major industry, is the state's second-largest employer and fourth-largest income producer. This clean, renewable industry added about $510 million to the state's economy in 1980. More than four million visitors are drawn annually to Glacier and Yellowstone national parks, Flathead Lake, the Custer Battlefield, Virginia City, the Lewis and Clark Trail and other attractions. Many of these visitors come back again and again to enjoy the pristine beauty, historic significance, recreational opportunities and western flavor of the Big Sky Country.

CUSTER'S LAST STAND

Montana's Custer Battlefield National Monument memorializes one of the last armed efforts of the Northern Plains Indians to preserve their ancestral way of life. Here in the valley of the Little Bighorn River on June 25 and 26, 1876, more than 260 U.S. Army soldiers and attached personnel met defeat and death at the hands of several thousand Sioux and Cheyenne warriors. Among the dead were Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer and every member of his immediate command.

Although the Indians won this battle, they lost the war against the white man's efforts to end their independent, plains culture.

The move west began when the Civil War ended. An almost certain result was encroachment on the Indian domain. Settlers showed little regard for the sanctity of Indian hunting grounds or the terms of former treaties. The Indians resisted. In 1868, at Fort Laramie, Wyoming, representatives of the Sioux, Cheyenne and other tribes of the Great Plains, signed a treaty with the U.S. Government by which a large area in western Dakota and part of eastern Wyoming was designated a permanent Indian reservation. The government promised to protect the Indians "against the commission of all depradations by people in the United States."

GOLD WAS DISCOVERED

Just six years later, in 1874, gold was discovered in the Black Hills, the heart of the new Indian reservation. News of the strike spread quickly, and soon thousands of fortune seekers moved in on the region in violation of the Fort Laramie treaty. The Army tried to keep them out but to no avail. The peace agreement in 1868 was dishonored when the Sioux and Cheyenne, in growing defiance, began to leave the reservation. In

December 1875, the Commissioner of Indian Affairs ordered them to return before January 31, 1876, or therafter be regarded as hostiles to be "treated accordingly by the military force." When the Indians did not comply, the Army was called in to enforce the order.

The Army's campaign against the Sioux and Cheyenne called for three separate expeditions — Gen. George Crook's force from Fort Fetterman, in Wyoming, Col. John Gibbon's command from Fort Ellis in Montana and Gen. Alfred H. Terry's troops from Fort Abraham Lincoln in Dakota Territory. These columns were to converge on the main body of the Indians concentrated in southeastern Montana under the leadership of Sitting Bull, Crazy Horse and other war chiefs.

Crook clashed with the Indians in March and again in June. Afterwards, Indians moved west toward the Little Bighorn. In mid-June, Terry and Gibbon met at the confluence of the Yellowstone and Rosebud rivers. Hoping to find the Indians in the Little Bighorn Valley, Terry ordered Custer and the 7th Cavalry up the Rosebud to approach the Little Bighorn from the south. Terry himself would accompany Gibbon's force back up the Yellowstone and Bighorn to approach from the north.

The 7th Cavalry, numbering about 700 men, located the Indian camp on June 25. Custer, probably underestimating the fighting power of the Indian forces, believed it safe to divide his regiment into three battalions. By attacking immediately, he might have hoped to prevent the Indians from slipping away. One battalion of three companies under Captain Frederick Benteen was sent to scout the bluffs to the south. At the same time, a battalion of three companies under Major Marcus Reno and one of five companies under Custer marched along opposite banks of a small creek to attack the Indian village in the valley of the Little Bighorn.

When near the Little Bighorn, Custer turned north toward the lower end of the Indian camp. Reno, with orders from Custer to cross the river and attack, advanced down the Little Bighorn Valley and struck the upper end of the camp. Outflanked by the defending warriors, he retreated in disorder to the river and took up defensive positions on the bluffs beyond. Here he was soon joined by Benteen, who had hurried forward under written order from Custer to 'Come on; Big village, be quick, bring packs."

Gunfire from the north caused men to scout in that direction seeking the whereabouts of Custer and his command. An advance company under Captain Thomas Weir marched downstream to a high hill, from which the Custer battlefield was visible. By this time, however, the firing had stopped. When the rest of the command arrived on the hill, it was attacked by a large force of Indians, and Reno ordered a withdrawal to the original position on the bluffs overlooking the Little Bighorn. Here these seven companies entrenched and held their defenses throughout that day and most of the next, returning the Indian fire and successfully discouraging attempts to storm their position. The siege ended when all the Indians broke their great encampment and withdrew upon the approach of columns under Terry and Gibbon.

In the meantime, Custer had ridden into history and legend. Vivid accounts of the battle by Indians who participated in it tell how his command was surrounded and destroyed in fierce fighting. But Custer's intentions and precise movements after separating from Reno's battalion have never been documented.

In the battle, the 7th Cavalry lost the five companies that were under Custer, about 225 men. Of the other six companies in the regiment, under Reno and Benteen, 47 were killed and 52 wounded.

The Indian losses were no more than 100 men killed. They removed most of their dead from the battlefield when the large village broke up. The tribes and families scattered, some going south, some north. Most of them returned to the reservations and surrendered in the next few years.

100 YEARS HAVE PASSED

More than 100 years have passed, but the Custer battle continues to illustrate a part of what Americans have come to know as their western heritage. Heroism and tragedy, brashness and humiliation, victory and defeat — these are contradictions people still come to the battlefield to ponder.

The battlefield and cemetery have been managed by the National Park Service since 1940. Park rangers are on duty year-round to help visitors understand their tour of the battlefield. Highlights of the tour are Custer Hill, a common grave and memorial shaft bearing the names of all the soldiers who died in the battle; Reno-Benteen Battlefield; Weir Point, the hill Captain Weir climbed hoping to locate Custer; Battle Ridge, where three of the five companies under Custer fell; National Cemetery, a relatively small burial ground where soldiers killed in several Indian battles on the Northern Plains are buried along with servicemen of World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam, and the Visitor Center, which houses many museum exhibits that further illustrate and explain the battle.

Custer Battlefield National Monument lies within the Crow Indian Reservation southeast of Billings. U.S. 212 connects the battlefield with the Black Hills and Yellowstone National Park.

HOW TO WATCH A RODEO

Practically every weekend during the summer, a rodeo can be found somewhere in Montana.

This truly Western sport began as the result of activities performed by the working cowboy on his day-to-day job. Calf roping was done when a calf had to be caught for doctoring and branding and saddle bronc riding was performed when breaking a horse to ride.

It wasn't long before cowboys began gathering regularly to test their skills and prove who was the toughest cowboy and best rider. This contest usually took place after the annual roundup, and it was called a rodeo, the Spanish word for roundup.

In the 1880s admission was charged for the first time and the sport developed rapidly as professional entertainment. Cowboys began traveling from rodeo to rodeo, and soon formed their own association. Over the years rodeo has developed into a series of eight events. These include bareback riding, saddle bronc, bull riding, calf roping, steer wrestling, team roping,

the wild horse race and the girls' barrel racing. An arbitrary time limit of 8 seconds was set for all riding events, so as not to wear out the bucking stock too quickly.

An important part of the modern rodeo is the parade that precedes it. It generally features horse-drawn vehicles, equestrian units, floats, drill teams, clowns, bands and antique cars. The parade provides an opportunity for the whole community to participate in rodeo activities.

The rodeo itself opens with the "grand entry." Mounted drill teams and rodeo royalty enter the arena and display the "colors." Then, the announcer's voice booms across the loudspeaker, "Let's go, Let's show, Let's rodeo!" and the events begin.

SADDLE BRONC RIDING originated on the ranch when it was necessary for the cowboy to obtain transportation the hard way. Saddle broncs are not trained to buck, but do so instinctively. The leather flank strap is an added inducement to buck. It is not painful, just annoying. The rider uses a braided rope called a "buck rein" and a standard Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) saddle. He uses a swinging leg motion called a "lick" to keep rhythm and one hand in the air to keep his balance. A good rider will look as if he's in a rocking chair. Back on the ranch, cowboys would ride the broncs until they had broke the horse or were bucked off. Today, in the rodeo arena, they have to stay on for only 8 seconds. The bronc rider is judged on how well he rides and the animal on how well he bucks. Each can score up to 50 points with maximum for the ride being 100 points. Two men on horseback, called "pick-up men," are in the arena to help the cowboy dismount when the ride is over.

BAREBACK RIDING horses are generally smaller, shiftier and faster than those used for saddle broncs. No stirrups or reins are used in this event. The rider has only a stiff leather strap that goes around the horse's belly, called a "rigging." The handhold on the rigging provides the cowboy his only means of staying on. The rider must spur the horse the entire 8 seconds and is disqualified if he touches the horse with his free hand or misses the horse with his spurs on the first jump. Again, a cowboy can receive a maximum of 100 points for his ride.

CALF ROPING is a timed event and depends on harmony between the cowboy and his horse. The calf is given a 10-foot lead in this race. The cowboy must not break his rope barrier prematurely when coming out of the "box" or he will be penalized. It is the horse's job to position the cowboy near the speeding calf and enable the roper to bring him to a halt. Once the cowboy dismounts, the horse must work the rope to keep it taut while the cowboy downs the calf and ties three legs together.

STEER WRESTLING is sometimes called "bull dogging." This event requires two people, a "dogger" and a "hazer." Doggers are among the most physical athletes in a very physical sport. While the hazer keeps the steer running in a straight line down the arena, the dogger must leap from a horse sprinting up to 25 miles per hour onto a 700-pound Mexican steer, grab it by the horns, stop it and wrestle it to the ground. This is a timed event, and the cowboy who can perform this task in the shortest amount of time wins.

BULL RIDING is the ultimate contest between man and beast. A bull rider averaging 5'8" and 150 pounds is pitted against a 1,500-pound bull. PRCA rules require a one-handed ride with a loose rope. This flat, braided rope is placed around the bull's belly and then wrapped around the rider's hand so that it will fall off when the cowboy dismounts. The cowboy is not required to spur the bull during his 8-second ride, but spurring will add to his score. To a bull rider, rodeo clowns represent life itself. While they take time for fun and games, the clowns have one primary mission—to rescue cowboys. These "matadors" distract the bull once the cowboy is off, allowing him to escape any way he can.

BARREL RACING is an event that allows women to test their skills during the rodeo. In this event, women run highly-trained horses through a cloverleaf pattern at break-neck speeds. The main demand of the barrel racer is to recognize the conditions of the arena, then ride her horse in such a way that she can trim every hundredth of a second off her time. Barrel racing is a close, exacting, exciting contest and beautiful to watch. It takes a fast, agile horse and a skillful rider with exceptional horse sense.

THE WILD HORSE RACE is a thrilling event that is included in many Montana rodeos. Unlike the bucking stock used in the standard riding event, these horses are truly wild. A team of two "muggers" must hold the horse long enough to saddle him and allow a third man to mount and ride him. There are usually two lines at opposite ends of the arena which the rider must cross. The excitement of the other horses, muggers, riders and spectators adds to the fireworks.

The stock used in the rodeo plays an important role. A good bucking horse, or a mean bull add considerably to the excitement of the contest. On the average, rodeo stock works about one hour out of the entire year.

Today's rodeo cowboy is a professional athlete. He competes for personal pride. It's man against animal in the ultimate contest and skills such as strength, balance, timing and coordination are required.

Friendship runs deep among rodeo cowboys. Danger and luck draw them together. They know no financial security and seek none. Cowboys pay their own way, putting up to $200 to enter a single event. Some only compete part-time and others will enter more than 100 rodeos in a single year.

Rodeo contestants compete for a "purse," and the top money-winning cowboys attend the National Finals Rodeo each December to compete for world championship titles.

Montana is the home of such unique rodeos as the All Girls Rodeo in Jackson, the All Indian Rodeo in Wolf Point, the Old Timers Rodeo in Roundup (where contestants must be at least 40 to enter), the College National Finals Rodeo in Bozeman and the Wild Horse Stampede in Wolf Point - the grandaddy of 'em all.

THE LOVE OF WESTERN ART

"Coming to Camp at the Mouth of the Sun River" by C.M. Russell, Mackay Collection, courtesy Montana Historical Society

It's more than a passing fancy. More than a regional influence. Western art has taken the country by a storm. It started booming in the '60s and kept right on growing through the '70s. The popularity and value of western art has appreciated phenomenally over the past 20 years. Popular western artists can't paint fast enough to keep up with the demand for paintings that regularly sell for $30,000 to $50,000. Remingtons that sold for under $500,000 four years age bring more than a million dollars on today's market. Russell originals are expected to break the million-dollar mark any minute. A bronze by Montana sculptor Bob Scriver is now selling for five to six times its 1979 issue price. At annual appreciation rates like these, the value of western art has outpaced many other fields of art.

It's hard to predict where it will all end, but we can go back to where it began. The subject of western art cannot be debated fully without mention, in some detail, of the life and work of cowboy artist Charlie Russell. Born in St. Louis in 1864, Russell developed an obsession with the West early on. Wonderful stories of adventure and exploration found their way to St. Louis from the frontier, and in 1879, at the age of 15, Russell found his way out to Montana.

During his first winter here, Charlie lived with a trapper and learned all about the land and its animal and Indian inhabitants. Later, he worked as a night wrangler and cowboy. In 1888, he lived several months with the Blood Indians in Canada, storing Indian images and ideas that would nourish his work from that time on.

Russell was an eyewitness to the demise of the frontier, and its disappearance had a profound impact on him. In the words of one Montana historian: "It took Montana fewer than fifty years to make the transition from steamboats to airplanes. In this ephemeral process, Indians were forced to reservations, buffalo became virtually extinct, the open range cattle industry came and went, miners with gold pans were replaced by multi-million-dollar ventures, and towns and highways covered the landscape. The impacts of these events produced, in the sensitive C.M. Russell, a romanticism and nostalgia which allowed him to capture and express in his letters, drawings and paintings the essence of what Americans knew they had lost forever."

ROMANCE WITH THE PAST

Cowboys, Indians, buffalo and horses. These are the symbols of our ongoing romance with the past. And these are the symbols that give Russell's work and all western art its appeal. As first-hand observers of the discovery and settlement of the West, the early western artists captured a time and a place that reflected the nation's image of itself as free and limitless.

There are two museums in Montana where original works of Charlie Russell — his paintings, drawings, sculpture and letters — can be seen. In Great Falls, where Russell lived and worked, art and history lovers can enjoy both the C.M. Russell Museum and Russell's original log cabin studio, built in 1903. The home Russell shared with his wife, Nancy, is also open to the public. It is furnished with authentic pieces from the early 1900s and helps provide a total view of Charlie Russell's life and times. In the museum, the Trigg Collection forms the nucleus of the permanent Russell acquisitions. Donated by Miss Josephine Trigg, a friend and neighbor of the artist, the collection displays the diversity of Russell's work, including illustrated letters, oils, watercolors, sketches and bronzes. The collection features many well-known masterpieces, including the popular "Jerk Line" and "Buffalo Hunt." The museum also features original work by many of Russell's contemporaries, including O.C. Seltzer, J.H. Sharp, E.E. Heikka and I. Couse.

In Helena, the Montana Historical Society displays an extensive collection of Russell originals through its

Mackay Gallery of Russell Art. Included in the collection are dozens of oils, watercolors, bronzes, original sculpture models, pen and ink sketches, pencil sketches and illustrated letters, cards and poems. Some of the more well-known paintings on display here are "When the Land Belonged to God," "Laugh Kills Lonesome," "Toll Collectors," "Free Trader" and "Indian Hunters Return."

Other western artists whose work is featured here are Edgar Paxson, O. C. Seltzer, Maynard Dixon, William Standing and Frank Tenney Johnson.

For those who are ready to start collecting western art or would like to simply soak up the ambiance of a western art show, Montana hosts several major shows and auctions each year. Every March, the Great Falls Advertising Federation stages a bigger and better C. M. Russell Art Auction for the benefit of the C. M. Russell Museum. About $3.5 million of original western art has been sold over the auction's 14-year history. The three-day show includes several auctions, seminars and receptions and features the work of the nation's finest living and deceased western artists.

In August, the action moves to Helena where a select group of artists — the Northwest Rendezvous Group — stages the three-day Western Rendezvous of Art. This exhibit and sale is rapidly gaining a reputation of the finest of its kind in the Pacific Northwest. Among the Rendezvous artists featured at this show are Joe Bohler, Paul Calle, Robert Bateman, Frank McCarthy, Verne Tossey and Montana's own Clark Bronson, Gary Carter, Arlene Hooker Fay, Jack Hines, Bob Morgan, Gary Schildt, Steve Seltzer, Tucker Smith, Jessica Zemsky, Joe Halko, Clyde Aspevig and Hank Lawshe.

A third major art show, the Kalispell Art Show and Auction, takes place every year in late August or early September. Kalispell is headquarters for the many western and wildlife artists who live and work in the beautiful Flathead Valley in northwestern Montana. Some of the artists who have been attracted to this corner of the world are Bud Helbig, Fred Fellows, Bob Cavanaugh and Frank Hagel. Helbig and Fellows, along with Bob Scriver who lives and works further north, just outside Glacier National Park, are members of the prestigious Cowboy Artists of America. Each year the work of these and many other distinguished western artists is shown and sold at the three-day auction for the benefit of Kalispell's Hockaday Center for the Arts.

Even if you're not a collector, you will be caught up in the excitement of a real western art show. It's one thing to see a valuable work of art hanging on the wall of a metropolitan museum and quite another to view it in the setting that inspired its creation. This is where it all began.

THE NEZ PERCE JOURNEY TO SURRENDER

In the summer of 1877 a small group of Nez Perce Indians journeyed from eastern Oregon through Idaho Territory and into Montana Territory, stopping finally at the Bear Paw Mountains just south of Canada.

The traditional homeland of these peaceful, seminomadic Indians was the Wallowa Valley of northwestern Oregon. A strong and intelligent people, they had lived in peace and friendship with the whites ever since the coming of Lewis and Clark in 1805. It was their proud boast that no member of their tribe had ever killed a white man.

These people grazed horses, gathered edible roots and bulbs, fished and hunted buffalo east of the mountains. They were instrumental in developing the Appaloosa breed of horses.

In the mid-1800s, settlers, stockmen and gold miners began moving into their lands. Desiring peace, the Nez Perce agreed to a treaty in 1855 that confined them to a reservation. The reservation included much of their ancestral land and the treaty promised that non-Indians could live on the reservation only with the Indians' consent.

White settlers and miners forced a new treaty in 1863 that reduced the Nez Perce reservation to one-fourth its original size. Those Indians who lived outside the new boundaries refused to participate in the talks or to sign the treaty. They became known as the "non-treaty" Nez Perce.

These non-treaty Indians remained in their homeland for several more years, but the Wallowa Valley was very lush and fertile and settlers were anxious to possess it. So, in 1877, just one year after Custer's humilitating defeat at the Battle of the Little Bighorn, political pressure forced the Indian Bureau to order the various bands of Indians onto the smaller reservation. General O. O. Howard was ordered to support the local Indian agent.

In mid-May the Nez Perce were given an ultimatum to be on the reservation in 30 days. They rounded up their stock in record time and met within miles of the reservation for a last bit of freedom.

It was while they were camped here that three young warriors seeking revenge attacked a group of white settlers who earlier had cheated or killed older members of their families. They came back to camp, gathered more warriors and killed 14 or 15 more settlers in the next two days.

The Nez Perce thought they would surely be punished for this act so they began their flight to join the Crow Indians in Montana. They wished only to find a place where the Army would leave them alone and where they would be far enough from settlements to avoid further clashes.

Although these Indians hoped to escape from the Army peaceably, they were forced to stop and face

their pursuers nearly a dozen times—a journey now called the Nez Perce Indian War of 1877.

This group of Nez Perce consisted of about 800 people, including only 125 warriors. They were also traveling with about 2,000 horses and whatever possessions they could carry.

Chief Joseph had been the spokesman for the nontreaty Nez Perce in peacetime and it was assumed at the beginning by the whites that he was also leading them in war. Chief Joseph sat in on the councils but since he had never been a war chief, his advice carried less weight than that of Five Wounds, Rainbow and Looking Glass. Joseph took charge of the old men, women and children, an assignment of vital importance and sacred trust.

After their third major battle (at the Big Hole in Montana), the Nez Perce gave up all hope of returning to their homeland and decided to make a run for Canada to join Sitting Bull and his people. They headed toward Yellowstone National Park where they captured two groups of campers and later released them all.

The Nez Perce were still being pursued by General O. O. Howard, Colonel John P. Gibbon, Colonel Samuel Sturgis and all their troops. The Indians managed to stay ahead of the cavalry and to inflict many losses on the Army. Shoshone and Crow warriors refused to join the Nez Perce because they wanted to avoid trouble with the Army.

BEAT BY THE TELEGRAPH

The truth was that Nez Perce successes were resulting from a combination of over confidence and mistakes on the part of the whites, the rugged terrain that made pursuit difficult and the Indians' intense courage and sheer determination. But, the Nez Perce were eventually beat by the telegraph.

Colonel Nelson A. Miles, having received a bulletin from the west, left Fort Keogh in eastern Montana with nearly 600 men and a body of Cheyenne warriors and launched a surprise attack on the Nez Perce on the cold, blustery morning of September 30. Both sides suffered heavily and instead of ordering another charge, Miles decided to lay siege to the Indian village. They were on the northern edge of the Bear Paw Mountains in northcentral Montana and the weather turned bitterly cold. The next morning five inches of new snow lay on the ground.

General Howard arrived with reinforcements on October 4, and it was then that Chief Joseph handed over his rifle and made one of the most moving speeches of surrender every made:

"Hear me, my chiefs. I am tired; my heart is sick and sad.

From where the sun now stands I will fight no more forever."

The Nez Perce had traveled 1700 miles in less than four months to be stopped only 30 miles short of the Canadian border and sanctuary. Of the 800 who began the trek, only 480 were left to surrender. Some were killed, some reached Canada and some survived by hiding in the hills.

The captured Indians were not sent back to their reservation as promised, but were shipped by flatboats and boxcars to unfamiliar, hot country in the Indian Territory, now Oklahoma, where many of them grew ill and died. Finally, in 1885 Joseph and most of his band were sent to the Colville Reservation in Washington. Joseph mady many attempts to be allowed to resettle in the Wallowa, but each time was rebuffed. In 1904 he died, broken-hearted, an exile from the beautiful valley he still considered home.

Today in Montana, visitors can view two battle sites of the Nez Perce Indian War of 1877. Twelve miles west of Wisdom on Montana Highway 43 is the Big Hole National Battlefield and 16 miles south of Chinook, off U.S. 2 in northern Montana, is the Chief Joseph Battlefield, site of the final battle and surrender.

CATTLE RANCHING: BEFORE AND AFTER BARBED WIRE

Today, ranching in Montana differs immensely from what it looked like 100 years ago. At that time, Montana was seen as an endless sea of grass that could graze an unlimited number of cattle. In the 1860s and early '70s many longhorn cattle were driven north from Texas and turned loose in Montana. There was unrestrained open grazing on public domain. There were no fences, and cowboys simply drove their herds to greener pastures when the land became overgrazed.

During those early years, some outstanding profits were made in ranching. Due to ever-increasing markets and good prices for cattle, raising beef had become the biggest business in the West by 1885. Foreign investors, especially Englishmen and Scots, took advantage of the lucrative livestock industry, and cattle continued to pour into the territory. By 1886, the peak of the open-range era, an estimated 664,000 cattle grazed Montana lands.

The winter of 1886-87 is long remembered in the cattle industry. In November of 1886, the cold and snow set in and continued through February. Many cattle died as a result of deep snows and temperatures that plunged to 50 below zero, with high winds. The grasslands of Montana had been overgrazed and ranchers did not have the foresight to cut hay for feeding the cattle through the winter. During that disastrous winter, about 60 percent of the territory's entire beef population was lost and most of the ranchers never recovered.

Charlie Russell's quick sketch of a frozen, starving cow—entitled "Last of the 5,000"—dramatized the ranchers' losses, and became a turning point in his career as a Western artist.

It was during that winter that Montana ranchers realized the need for more careful range management and supplementary feeding. Herds were improved with Shorthorns and Herefords, to develop a breed that could withstand the cold climate. The tendency was toward smaller ranches on land that the operator either owned or leased. Cowboys spent more time mending fences and raising feed and ranching progressed rapidly to the modern methods used today.

Winter on the ranch is calving time. Calves are generally born between February and April. Heifers

(young cows that have not had calves) often need assistance in delivering their calves, so they are placed in a pen or barn near the house. A rancher must check his cows every four hours night and day during the calving scason, in order to detect birthing problems early. A well-fed cow can be expected to produce a calf weighing from 60 to 100 pounds.

By mid-April, the snow has melted and the cattle are returned to the larger, open pastures, where they will eat the plentiful grasses and fend for themselves all summer.

At the end of May, the cows and calves are brought in for branding. A brand is a mark that distinguishes one rancher's cattle from all others. Should a stray cow wander into a rancher's pasture, he will be aware of his neighbor's brand and know who to call. Branding is a special occasion on the ranch and many Montana ranches still do it the old-fashioned way. Neighbors and friends gather to help and the day begins at sunrise. Cows and calves are rounded up and the calves are separated from their mamas and put in a pen. The calves are then roped, wrestled down and branded. The brand is imprinted with a hot iron. The iron is held on the hide of the calf for 3 or 4 seconds. This leaves a permanent scar that can never be removed. At this time, calves are also vaccinated against such diseases as brucellosis.

Because bulls aren't very good beef producers, bull calves are castrated at branding time to become steers. Top-of-the-line bulls are saved for breeding only. Calves are also dehorned, a process completed either by cutting off the horns or by applying dehorning paste. Cattle buyers perfer hornless cattle because they cause less injury in feed lots.

During the summer, the cows and bulls will be together for breeding. One bull is placed in a pasture with between 20 and 30 cows, and is left there for two to three months.

Every year around July, ranchers have to put up hay or buy hay from other ranchers. Dry land farmers generally get one cutting of hay per year and irrigated farms can produce up to three cuttings. The hay must be cut, baled and stacked. A rancher must have enough hay to feed his cattle for four months. A cow can eat 15 to 20 pounds of hay a day during the cold months. Most ranchers use another supplement, such as "cake," a compressed pellet made from barley and other grains.

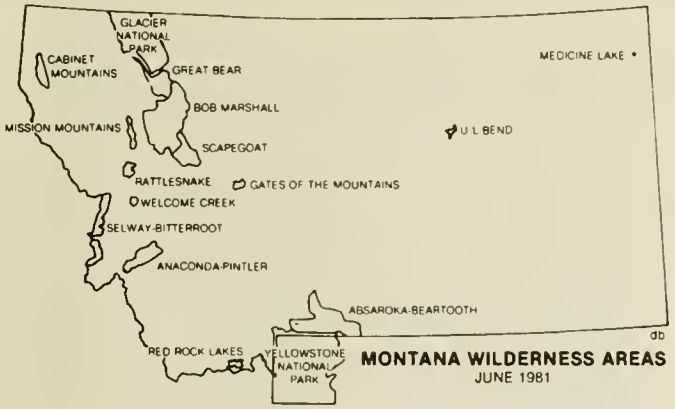
In the fall, the calves are gathered and sold to feed lots. At this time, they will weigh about 500 pounds. After a couple of months in the feed lots, they will have gained 200 pounds and will be sold for slaughter.

Before the first snows fly, the cows will be brought in closer to the ranch so they can be fed more easily during the winter months. Feeding the cows takes up most of the rancher's morning, and afternoons are spent mending fences, checking on newborns and getting ready for the summer.

A rancher's life is not easy. Rising and falling prices and alternating wet and dry cycles have combined to make cattle ranching, as always, an unpredictable livelihood.

Roundup time in Montana

FORESTS COVER MILLIONS OF ACRES



One of Montana's most inviting features is its vast acreage of publicly owned forest and recreational land in the western one-third of the state. These lands, which total nearly 17 million acres, are managed as national forests by the U.S. Forest Service and comprise about two-thirds of the land area in western Montana. The central and eastern two-thirds of the state, on the other hand, are plains and grasslands with isolated mountain ranges and are, for the most part, privately held.

Western Montana's forests contain a wealth of resources. Besides tall stands of Ponderosa and Lodgepole pine, Douglas fir and Engelmann spruce, which are harvested for lumber, plywood and paper, there are streams, lakes, trails and wildlife that provide an endless source of recreation and renewal for thousands of forest visitors each year.

Portions of all 10 of Montana's national forests are considered such a valuable national treasure that they have been set aside as national wildernesses, meaning they are closed from resource development, motorized traffic and other activities that would degrade their natural value. By law, wilderness is recognized as "an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain." In Montana, these pristine lands exceed 3 million acres.

Probably the best-known of Montana's wilderness areas is the Bob Marshall Wilderness, considered to be the flagship of the nation's wilderness system. Established in 1940, the "Bob," as it is known locally, was named in honor of a man whose writings and work as a Forest Service and Interior Department official in the 1930s did much to foster national interest in wilderness preservation.

What is known as the Bob Marshall complex actually consists of three connected wilderness areas, the 950,000-acre Bob Marshall Wilderness being the largest. The two connecting wildernesses are the Great Bear to the north and the Scapegoat to the south. Together, they comprise about 1.5 million acres, an area about the size of Deleware. The complex lies immediately south of Glacier National Park.

Other Forest Service wilderness areas in Montana are the Absaroka-Beartooth, the Anaconda-Pintler, the Gates of the Mountains, the Selway-Bitterroot, Welcome Creek, the Rattlesnake, the Mission Mountains and Cabinet Mountains.

Thousands of visitors seek the quiet beauty of these forests and wilderness areas every year. In the summer, they come to hike, fish, float, picnic and camp. In the fall, when the first snows come to the high country, Montana's forests are headquarters for big game hunters. In the winter, there is skiing, snowshoeing and snowmobiling. And year-round, the forests are a mecca for sightseers and photographers.

During the summer months, visitors are welcome at these visitor and information centers:

Hungry Horse Dam Visitor Center, Flathead National Forest, at the head of Hungry Horse Reservoir (off U.S. 2 between Columbia Falls and Glacier National Park). One of the largest and highest concrete dams in the world. Tours are conducted by the Bureau of Reclamation. Open weekdays April 15 - October 30; open weekends June 15 - Labor Day.

Libby Dam Visitor Center, Kootenai National Forest, at the head of Lake Koocanusa (off Montana Highway 37, east of Libby). This 420-foot-high dam backs up the Kootenai River to form a 90-mile-long reservoir into Canada. A joint U.S.-Canadian water resource project, the lake derives its name from the first three letters of Kootenai River, Canada and U.S.A. Open year-round. Open weekdays all year; open weekends May 16 - September 11.

Madison River Canyon Earthquake Area Visitor Center, Gallatin National Forest (on U.S. 287, north of West Yellowstone). The visitor center is at the head of Earthquake Lake, created in 1959 by a quake that toppled a mountain and killed 28 people. Open Memorial Day to Labor Day.

Lolo Pass Information Center, Clearwater National Forest (on U.S. 12 atop Lolo Pass on the Montana-Idaho state line). Offers a panoramic view of the route Lewis and Clark followed in their search for a passageway to the Pacific Ocean. Several campsites used by the expedition are in the immediate vicinity. Open June 15 through Labor Day.

Aerial Fire Depot Visitor Center, (7 miles west of Missoula on U.S. 10 West, adjacent to the airport). Headquarters for the Forest Service aerial firefighting teams (smokejumpers) and the Northern Forest Fire Laboratory. Open June 15 - October 15. Tours on request during off season.

For more detailed information about Montana's national forests, write or call the Northern Region, USDA Forest Service, P.O. Box 7669, Missoula, MT 59807 (406)329-3711.

Scenic Beartooth Highway in the Beartooth Range

THE NIGHT THE MOUNTAIN FELL

At 11:37 p.m. on Monday, August 17, 1959, one of the most severe earthquakes recorded in North America shook the area around West Yellowstone.

The quake measured 7.1 on the Richter scale and sent gigantic tidal waves surging down the seven-mile length of Hebgen Lake, throwing an enormous quantity of water over the top of Hebgen Dam. This water, described as a wall 20 feet high, swept down the narrow canyon. Fortunately, the dam held against the tidal waves although it cracked in at least four places. At about the same time, half of a 7,600-foot-high mountain came crashing down into the valley. The slide dammed up the Madison River and forced the surging water back up the canyon.

It took 8 seconds for the 80 million tons of rock to fall to the valley floor 1,200 feet below. At the time it reached that point, it was estimated to be traveling at 175 miles per hour. Four-thousand-pound cars were tossed 40 feet and smashed against trees by the force of the near-hurricane velocity wind created by the falling mountain.

Every 15 to 20 minutes during that night and the following morning another shock occurred. Some 300 people were trapped in the Madison Canyon when big sections of the road fell into Hebgen Lake.

The next morning eight smokejumpers were dropped to bring in food and first aid equipment and help prepare a landing spot for an evacuation helicopter.

When the mountain fell, it covered the unimproved section of Rock Creek campground, burying several people. It was not feasible to move 80 tons of dirt and rock, so much research was done to determine how many people were missing. It was estimated that 19 persons are buried beneath the rubble.

Two people camped at the Cliff Lake campground were killed when two boulders (each weighing eight tons) came crashing down a mountain and landed on top of them as they lay sleeping.

The final death toll for the earthquake stands at 28.

In nearby Yellowstone National Park, 18,000 people were overnighting and most were on the edge of panic. At Old Faithful Inn, the fireplace and chimney crashed through the dining room floor, activating the sprinkler system. Water damage was substantial.

The only injury in Yellowstone was a woman who sprained her ankle jumping out of bed.

At Canyon Village, a guest left a note on his pillow the following morning for the maid, saying, "An awfully rough bear stayed under my cabin last night. Had an awfully hard time sleeping. Better tell the night man to do something about it."

To preserve the effects of the earthquake on the geology and man-made structures, the Forest Service set aside 37,800 acres of the Gallatin National Forest as the Madison River Canyon Earthquake Area.

The Visitor Center, built on top of the slide, is open during the summer. On display are photos of the area just after the earthquake and a seismograph. There are also regularly scheduled talks about earthquakes.

FIGHTING FOREST FIRES FROM THE SKY

The largest smokejumper base in the United States is located in Missoula at the Region One Headquarters for the U.S. Forest Service. This Aerial Fire Depot is home to 128 smokejumpers, who are trained to parachute from airplanes to suppress forest fires in Montana, Idaho and Wyoming. This fire fighting force was created out of need for a quicker initial fire attack - especially in areas with limited access. The first fire jump was made in 1940. That year 12 jumpers made 99 fire jumps. More than 60,000 jumps have been made since 1940.

The smokejumper leads a rigorous life and must be in prime physical condition. Applicants must be at least 18 years old and have 2 years of work experience. One of these must include fire fighting in mountainous terrain. Hazardous jumping conditons and the size of the chute dictate that the prospective jumper be between 5'6" and 6'3" tall and weigh between 130 and 190 pounds. Of the many who apply for this job, only a select few are chosen. Of the applicants selected, many may be cut during the grueling training program.

The training for new jumpers lasts approximately three weeks. During this time they receive classroom and field instruction in fire behavior, fire suppression techniques, first aid and the use of hand and power tools. A test of endurance usually administered during this period involves having the men "dig line" around an imaginary fire throughout the night, followed by a 3-mile hike carrying a 105-pound pack.

At the same time, new men begin parachute training. They are taught how to exit from the airplane correctly, turn the parachute and manuever it to a safe landing, "let down" from a tree landing, climb a tree to retrieve a chute and how to do a proper "roll" when landing.

After completing the training and performing 8 actual jumps from the airplane into progressively smaller landing spots, the smokejumper is "fire ready" and is placed on the "jump list."

Several pieces of specialized equipment are used by smokejumpers. The fire-resistant jumpsuit is designed with padding at the joints to provide protection upon landing. A high,padded collar protects the neck in case of a tree landing. Each trouser leg has a full-length zipper for quick removal and on the lower right leg is a rope pocket, which holds the 100-foot flat nylon rope used for getting out of trees. The smokejumper also wears a helmet with a wire mesh face mask and tight gloves during the jump. The main chute is worn on the back and a reserve chute is attached to the front. Below the reserve chute, the jumper carries his personal gear, or "PG" bag. Inside this bag are personal belongings such as his hard hat, raincoat, extra gloves and first aid equipment.

When a fire call comes and the siren sounds, smokejumpers must be suited up and ready to board the plane within 5 minutes.

When the airplane reaches the site of the fire, it circles the area about 1,200 feet above the ground. From the cockpit, the "spotter" studies the terrain and chooses a landing area. Still circling the fire, the spotter moves to the open door near the back of the plane and throws out three crepe paper streamers to check for wind speed and direction.

Smokejumpers usually jump in "two-man sticks." The first jumper moves to the open door and assumes his position. When he has been slapped on the calf of the left leg by the spotter he jumps. The second man moves into the door, pauses momentarily and jumps. These two men are "jump partners," and in case of injury upon landing, they will depend heavily on one another.

The chutes are quite maneuverable and can usually be steered into the landing spot. However, high winds created by the fire or due to the mountainous terrain sometimes cause the jumper to drift to another area, or perhaps, land in a tree.

Smokejumpers may stay throughout the entire fire, or may be relieved by a local fire crew. Their primary job is the initial fire attack. This method of fire fighting has saved countless thousands of dollars over the years.

Besides fighting fires, smokejumpers are dispatched on rescue missions. Most are trained in wilderness first aid and emergency medical services. Because of the high-risk nature of their work, smokejumpers are a close-knit group, bound by a deep sense of camaraderie. Whenever two or more are gathered, the "silk stories" begin. Fires are re-fought, jumps are re-jumped and hikes are re-hiked.

Guided tours of the facilities at the Aerial Fire Depot in Missoula are available. Displays at the visitor center include a fire lookout, smokejumper equipment and a movie about smokejumping.

There is also a small inter-agency smokejumper base in West Yellowstone. Only 14 jumpers are stationed there. Visitors are welcome.

Smokejumper descending into Lolo National Forest courtesy U.S.D.A Forest Service.

COLTER'S RUN

John Colter, a Virginian, joined the Lewis and Clark Expedition on October 15, 1803. He quickly established his ability as a marksman and was often used as a hunter on the journey. He was also given assignments of responsibility requiring him to go out by himself. During the whole journey, Colter's name never appeared on the sick list.

On the return trip down the Missouri River, the expedition met two men going upriver to trap. The two persuaded Colter to join them. The partnership broke up the following spring and Colter headed for St. Louis. But where the Platte enters the Missouri, he met up with Manuel Lisa and his party who where heading up the Missouri to establish fur trading posts. Colter signed up with that expedition and again returned up the Missouri.

The first cabin the Lisa party erected at the mouth of the Bighorn River was the first permanent building in what is now Montana. Colter was sent on an expedition to try to encourage trade with some distant Indian tribes. On his journey during that winter of 1807-08, he passed through Jackson Hole and the Teton Mountains and is believed to be the first white man ever to see what is now Yellowstone National Park. Colter's descriptions of the geysers and hot springs he saw in the Yellowstone area earned the Park the nickname of Colter's Hell.

In the spring of 1808, Colter and John Potts (another member of the Lewis and Clark Expedition) set out for the headwaters of the Missouri on a trapping expedition.

They were camped along the Jefferson River and were out checking traps one morning in a canoe when they were surprised by a large party of Blackfeet Indian. Potts attempted resistance and was killed. Colter gave himself up to avoid imminent death.

Legend has it that the Indians decided to give him a chance to "save himself." He was stripped naked and given a 300-to-400-yard headstart in a race against 500 Indians. Six miles ahead of him was the Jefferson River and a chance for concealment. Fear and hope lent a supernatural vigor to his body. He outran all but one Indian and turned quickly to confront him. The Indian was astounded by the sudden move and tried to hurl his spear but stumbled and broke it as he fell. Colter grabbed the pointed end and killed the warrior.

He continued his run to the river where he dove under a beaver lodge. The Indians explored the river and its banks but couldn't find Colter so they returned to their camp.

Colter waited until nightfall, then swam several miles downstream and went ashore.

For seven days he wandered naked and unarmed over stones and cactus, scorched by the heat of noon and chilled by the frost of night, living off roots. At last he reached Lisa's trading post on the Bighorn River - some 225 miles away.

Even this terrible adventure could not deter the dauntless Colter, and he remained another year in the mountains. Finally, in the spring of 1810, he returned to St. Louis after an absence of six years.

Back in Missouri, Colter purchased farm land 60 miles upriver from St. Louis. One of his neighbors was the elderly Daniel Boone. Colter married a girl named Sally, and it is believed that they had a son named Hiram. In autumn of 1813, Colter contracted "jaundice" and died in November.

Nearly a century elapsed before the world began to appreciate his contribution to western exploration.

One of the ways Montana commemorates John Colter's contribution is by staging an annual foot race — Colter's Run — near the Missouri Headwaters State Park. Sponsored by a local running club, the race traces, as accurately as possible, the route taken by Colter as he fled from the Blackfeet. In a state where many communites try to out-do one another with bigger or better or more unusual foot races, this one is surely the most challenging. Participants run up steep mountains and down the other side and even ford one of the Missouri's tributaries before dragging their weary bodies across the finish line.

THOSE WHITE CROSSES ARE THERE FOR A REASON

"What are those white crosses on the side of the road?" That's a question asked by many visitors to Montana. The roadside crosses were put in place by the American Legion as a memorial to persons killed in highway accidents. The statewide program was launched by the Legion in 1953, and today it is up to the 127 individual posts as to whether they wish to continue the program in their area. The Montana Highway Department furnishes the Legion with the names of traffic accident victims and the location of the accidents. If more than one person died in an accident, all the crosses are mounted on a single pole.

The crosses cannot be placed along interstate highways because of Highway Department regulations. Besides serving as a memorial to traffic accident victims, these markers warn motorists of potentially hazardous sections of highway.

Published by the Montana Travel Promotion Bureau in cooperation with Montana's innkeepers.

©1982 Montana Travel Promotion Bureau

Naturally inviting!

MONTANA

Montana Travel Promotion Bureau
Department of Commerce
1424 9th Avenue
Helena, MT 59620

Phone 406-449-2654 or 1-800-548-3390